

MACDONALD COLLEGE JOURNAL



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Farm . Home . School



The FEED *behind the FOOD...*

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National Committees Help to Plan Policies

It is encouraging to note the active programmes and keen interest shown in the numerous national committee meetings being held recently. These committees are made up of representatives from all sections of Canada and it is largely on their recommendations and advice that the Government depends for guidance in the formation of policy. Dr. H. Barton, Deputy Minister of Agriculture, speaking to the National Sheep Committee meeting in Ottawa recently, stressed this point and mentioned that from an administrative point of view, it brought out all angles to the various perplexing questions and made it possible to adopt the policies most acceptable to all sections of this country. He stated further that while this method may have some weaknesses, it did provide opportunity for a hearing of all points of view and had proved itself highly efficient during the war period. This statement should not be forgotten by those clamoring for more representation on administrative councils. Representation is available to all properly organized bodies and the organization of farmers is encouraged. What we need most is more and better representation as well as better understanding back home of the problems involved. Farm organizations can perform a useful service both in the representation they make and the information they transmit to their membership. Intelligent leadership in an informed community will go far toward solving most of our problems.

It Is Hard to Have It Both Ways

In the long run the most important improvement that it is possible to bring about is a better method of doing things. That is, a method of securing results with less effort: in other words, an increase in efficiency.

At present there appears to be a concerted effort — mostly on the part of those who are not directly connected with the industry — to increase the number of workers engaged in farming.

At the same time there is a great insistence on the need for increase in efficiency in farming including

expansion in the mechanization of the business.

Expansion of mechanization enables fewer workers to produce more. The expansion of mechanization enables farms operated largely by family labour, and depending only to a limited degree on hired labour, to increase in size as improved tools become available. This increase in area has been taking place in recent years. Many small farms have passed out through having been absorbed in larger areas. The average area of farms of Canada which was 124 acres in 1871 was 224 in 1931 and in 1941 the preliminary figure places it at 238 acres, an increase during the last decade of 14 acres.

Any farm resettlement policy should allow land enough to permit efficiency. It must be understood that there is a danger of having farming carried on in such a small way that neither mechanization nor efficiency is possible. The only way to ensure reasonably inexpensive food and prosperous farming at one and the same time is to have a large output per man on the farm. This is possible when men are well equipped with tools and provided there are not too many of them doing the job.

To many people an agricultural college is a school and nothing more, but its role is a wider one than this, for teaching can be best done by showing and in order to show a student the best in farming practice the agricultural college staff must be continually on the alert to experiment with or to develop new methods and new techniques.

At Macdonald College every department is engaged in practical work which is of direct value to the farming community and, in fact, to citizens in almost all walks of life. A forthcoming issue of the *Journal* will reflect this varied activity in the form of short articles prepared by each department.

Our Cover Picture

Prof. Crampton took the photograph which is used on our cover this month. Judging from some of the comments in the letters to the Editor on page 25, many of these camps in Quebec may not be in operation this season.

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A Modern Babel

by W. H. Brittain

We are told in Holy Writ of how, long ago, the children of men gathered themselves together on the plain of Shinar. For they had conceived a design of unparalleled boldness, daring and imagination — a plan to erect upon the plain a tower, whose top would reach into heaven. And we are told how the thousands of workmen were smitten with a strange "confusion of tongues" so that they could no longer work together and all their thought and effort ended in a great unfinished column standing in the desert.

It is said that "history repeats itself", and, in this case, it is so. For today we too are faced with the greatest task that has ever challenged the mind of man — a task requiring courage, boldness and constructive imagination. It is nothing less than remaking a whole world shaken by depression and smashed, shattered and impoverished by war! And again there has fallen upon us a confusion of tongues — all the more profound because the voices seem to speak the same language. Here are a few samples, among the thousands that might be given, taken at random from the press, the radio, the platform, or from current magazines, to illustrate the confusion of tongues that afflicts our modern world:

"We must work out a system of economic security for every citizen from the cradle to the grave".

"A coddled race never amounts to anything. Want is the great stimulus to initiation".

"External aid is not necessarily harmful. In the form of education it releases unsuspected stores of energy and skill which enrich the state. To assist the individual to extricate himself from a web of circumstances for which he is not responsible and to enable him to help himself, is justified".

"We have always had poverty and unemployment, and we always will. State aid undermines initiative and only creates more poverty".

"It is infinitely cheaper to maintain our citizens in gainful employment, where their earnings will keep moving the wheels of industry, than to maintain them in idleness".

"Business cycles are inevitable as the tides of the sea".

It is time to recognize the fact that all this confusion of counsel constitutes a national danger of the first order. It leads to loud and intense propaganda in favour of different sets of ideas, drowning the voice of reason. No one is interested in a "middle way". Opinion becomes crystallized into two distinct moulds. It ends in the formation of two irreconcilable groups, neither disposed to even listen to the other side, still less to accept the other party's programme, as a possible alternative to their own. In its extreme form this tendency leads to minorities organizing and even arming to seize power by force. This happened in Spain, where one side refused to accept the result of a

free election. The same situation was rapidly coming to a head in pre-war France — there were ominous rumblings even in Britain and America. Even we in Canada were not entirely immune.

We are now joined together in a great crusade. But who of us can predict the strain and stress that may well develop with the coming of peace to a world with all its activities geared to the necessities of war? Under such conditions the dark forces of disunity may well find their opportunity. Even today when we support our men fighting what is essentially a struggle for the independence of the world and requiring the supreme effort of all, we do not have perfect unity. On the contrary, certain interests do not hesitate to use force or intrigue to further sectional interests. We do not attempt to assess the blame for this state of affairs, but to give point to the fact that we can expect more violent struggles for position when the time comes to attack the problems of reconstruction entirely without the fervour that is born of war. Furthermore, no one who keeps eyes and ears open can fail to note a growing contempt for democratic methods and practices, a growing feeling that politics is a "dirty business", a growing belief that it is hopeless for the ordinary man to attempt to influence events. Combined with this is the belief that violence pays dividends. We know that wars breed revolutions and that we now live in such a revolutionary period, when changes in the accustomed things are bound to occur. To ensure that the good is not sacrificed, along with the bad, there must be unity among progressive elements who, at the same time, stand for sanity and stability.

The Farmers' Part

The rural population of Canada represents the largest group of primary producers and the largest users of manufactured goods. The farmer is at once a capitalist and a worker. He represents the most stable element in our national life. He is the most sturdy upholder of our democratic system. He menaces no one. He does not strike even when faced with ruinous prices for the products of his labour. Still less does he seek to take advantage of his country's peril. Unlike certain labour organizations, he maintains no "war chest" to further his collective rights. He maintains no lobby to influence legislation in his favour. But, when through unfair pressure of whatever kind, other groups secure for themselves an undue share of the national income, he is the first to suffer. It is in his greatest interest that there should be industrial peace, but standing aside from the struggle between "capital" and "labour", he is first to be crushed between the upper and the nether millstone. It is no help or comfort to him if those who temporarily gain through unsound decisions, later join him in a common ruin. (Concluded on page 22)



AGRICULTURE

Articles on problems of the farm

Is June Silage the Answer?

by J. N. Bird

In times like these when there is a shortage of protein feeds it is more important than ever to reduce the losses involved in the field-curing of early-cut hay. It is also necessary to find some low-cost method of making up for the low yield and feeding value of dry pastures in late summer. Experimental work which has been in progress for the last ten years or more has definitely shown a way of meeting both of these situations through the use of clover silage put up in early summer.

Early-cut red clover or a clover-timothy mixture in the fresh condition has in its dry matter a much higher protein and vitamin A value than is ever obtained after being cured as hay. The most practical and most economical method at present known of getting the maximum protein and vitamin A value from such a crop is through its preservation as silage. As a silage crop, clover may be used to replace part or all of the hay, or part or all of the corn silage usually fed. It may also provide a convenient supplementary feed for use when pastures become dry during drought periods in late summer. In the winter months, it may replace, in part, the protein concentrates and make possible the use of a lower-protein grain ration.

May Replace Hay

Judged on the basis of its dry matter, clover silage usually equals in feeding value the best field-cured hay, and surpasses by a wide margin the feeding value of the hay that would ordinarily be obtained from the same crop. Losses of dry matter involved in the making of silage vary from about five to fifteen per cent. whereas those commonly occurring in haymaking may vary from fifteen to thirty per cent. or even higher, under poor curing conditions.

With the weather conditions which usually prevail in eastern Canada during the month of June, it is likely that the protein of the clover crop will be better preserved and the vitamin A value much better preserved when it is put up as silage than when it is cured as hay. But there are additional arguments in favour of making silage from this crop. The ensiling may be commenced at an earlier stage of maturity than would be satisfactory for hay curing, and may be carried on during weather conditions that would be quite unsuitable for hay-making. Furthermore, when stored as silage the dry matter present in the crop takes only about one-third the storage space required by the same crop when stored as hay in a mow or stack.

Against these advantages must be weighed the heavier work involved in loading heavy, moisture-laden material

and cutting and storing it with the equipment ordinarily available on farms. The higher feeding value of the dry matter in silage is only obtained at the expense of work done by hand or machinery in handling three times the weight of the same material when field-cured as hay.

When compared on the basis of actual weight it would take about 100 pounds of silage to equal the feeding value contained in 40 pounds of hay made from the same crop. The difference is accounted for by the difference in the percentage of dry matter in the two products and also takes into consideration the greater feeding value of the dry matter when in the silage form. Furthermore, it seems questionable if stock can be induced to consume as much dry matter in the form of silage alone as they would in the form of hay or a combined hay and silage ration. Feeding recommendations usually discourage the use of silage as the sole roughage.

May Replace Corn

Since there may be a greater chance of clover silage being given a trial where cutting equipment and silos are already available, it might be appropriate here to consider some of the "pros" and "cons" of replacing corn silage with clover silage especially on farms where the green tonnage obtainable from an acre of clover approaches that from an acre of corn. In favour of clover silage is the fact that it can be produced at perhaps about 20 per cent less cost per ton than corn where conditions are reasonably favourable for both crops. Added to this is the fact that it is about twice as rich in protein and about six times as rich in vitamin A value as corn. But where yields of corn silage of over ten tons per acre can be regularly obtained, it is unlikely that clover will ever fully replace corn, although it might well replace it in part. Although corn, an annual crop, must be seeded each year and requires row cultivation, thus increasing its cost of production, clover, in its turn, is subject to winterkilling and in certain years when failure results from this cause corn silage must be used to meet the emergency.

Corn silage has the additional advantage of being slightly more palatable to stock than clover silage even though the latter may be made more palatable by molasses, added as a preservative as mentioned below.

Moisture Content Important

In recent years much attention has been given to the moisture content at which clover may be most satisfactorily ensiled. By some, this is considered the most important

consideration in silage making. The percentage of moisture present in any crop is closely related to its stage of maturity. The best stage for ensiling is, roughly speaking, the stage at which the crop would make the best quality of hay — the early bloom stage. However, the moisture content of the crop is also influenced by the moisture present in the soil and by weather conditions at the time of ensiling. Timothy has a moisture content roughly ten per cent lower than red clover at the hay stage. In southwestern Quebec, red clover cut within the period June 20 to July 5 would be expected to have a moisture content of 75 to 80 per cent whereas timothy cut within the same period would be expected to have a moisture content of 60 to 70 per cent, but abnormal weather conditions may lead to considerable departures from these percentages. A range of 60 to 70 per cent moisture is considered most favourable for ensiling this type of crop. If the moisture content is below 60 per cent the material is too dry, does not pack tightly and is apt to heat and spoil, whereas if it is higher than 70 per cent a sour, unpalatable type of silage is likely to result unless a preservative, such as molasses, is added.

Of course, the excess moisture in red clover during the above period may be got rid of by wilting. About two hours of drying in the swath during good drying weather should reduce the moisture content by 10 to 15 per cent; in a windrow the loss of moisture would be somewhat less. Wilting, however, may be undesirable because it leads to a considerable loss in vitamin A value and may make the material more likely to wind about revolving parts of the loader. Showery weather may greatly interfere with any attempt at wilting. On this account it may be more satisfactory to seek a desirable moisture range through the use of a suitable clover-timothy mixture but this, too, is not easily arranged.

Use of Molasses

To ensure a favourable type of fermentation in early-cut red clover silage and to make it a more palatable feed, it is recommended that molasses be added to the clover as it goes through the cutter at the rate of 40 to 60 pounds per ton depending on the moisture content, proportion of

clover, etc. Larger applications may be used, but they are unlikely to prove economical. Other preservatives have been tried but none so far has proven so satisfactory or fool-proof as molasses. It ensures good preservation, makes the silage more palatable and is itself a valuable addition to the feed. On the other hand, it involves an outlay in cash of about one dollar per ton at present prices and there is a considerable shortage of molasses for this purpose during these war years, making it desirable to order requirements well ahead of filling time.

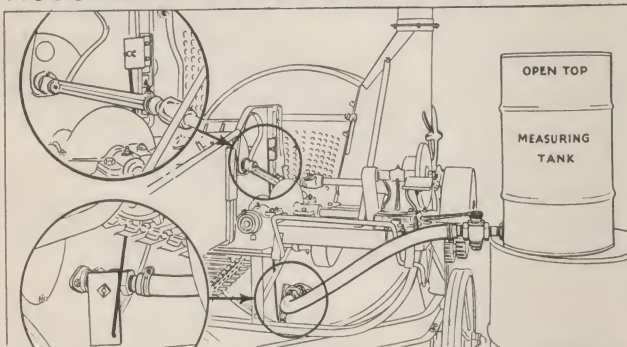
When clover with a moisture content of over 75 per cent is ensiled there is apt to be considerable loss of food value with the seepage which drains, or at least should be drained from the silo. While the amount of moisture added with molasses in its commercial form is small, it is sometimes found necessary to dilute the molasses with warm water to make it run freely through the feed pipe, as in cold weather, and this increases the seepage losses. To reduce these losses and to make use of a home-grown product thus avoiding a cash outlay for molasses, experiments have been conducted in the United States using corn meal as a preservative. The meal is fed into the cutter by means of an auger-type forced feed set to deliver the meal at the rate of 150 to 200 pounds per ton of clover. The results obtained thus far have proven very encouraging and the claim has been made that the meal practically eliminates all seepage problems. Although corn meal is not a home-grown product on many farms in Canada, there appears to be no reason why our ordinary farm grains, when ground, would not prove just as satisfactory for this purpose as corn.

As a matter of fact, satisfactory silage has been made from clover-timothy mixtures, or even pure clover, without using any preservative at all, but to do this certain requirements must be met. In the first place, the moisture content of the material must be just right — about 62 to 68 per cent. Since there is no convenient method for a farmer to determine this moisture content and since it varies considerably from day to day, experience is necessary for best results. This experience may be obtained, in some cases, only at the sacrifice of considerable spoilage due to faulty preservation. Furthermore, the silo must be in good shape, the silage finely-cut and closely packed and the top finished off with some fresh, green, immature material that will provide a good seal.

Loading and Hauling

The loading of such heavy moisture-laden material is work and machinery should be used wherever possible. Raking can be eliminated by the use of a windrower attachment for the mower. For loading, the ordinary rope-and-slat type of hayloaders are not strong enough and either must be suitably reinforced or replaced with ones of the raker-bar type, or the newer machines specially made for this purpose. Wagons or trucks used for loading should

AUTOMATIC PRESERVATIVE DISTRIBUTOR



Gravity system for adding molasses or phosphoric acid. Cut courtesy of Papec Machine Co., Shortsville, N.Y.

(Concluded on page 19)



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The opportunity I offer you comes from a heritage of freedom . . . freedom of breeds and breeders to vie with one another in bringing forth the best . . . freedom to receive recognition and reward in proportion to the perfection of their product and its appeal to the purchaser . . . freedom to own and control property, freedom to risk it against the promise that it may multiply.

Into your hands is now entrusted that heritage. It is for you to foster and extend the principles of individual opportunity whereby a new land became great and prosperous.

★ ★ ★

From those freedoms to venture and invent, to produce and to profit, came the farm machinery which makes our farmer the most productive and prosperous in all the world, and at the same time enables him to feed all the people at the highest level of nutrition and at the lowest percentage of their incomes. To preserve those freedoms and employ them for creation of ever-greater farm equipment is the policy and purpose of this company. J. I. Case Co., Toronto.

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SERVING AGRICULTURE *Since 1842* IN PEACE AND WAR

Poor Land—Poor Feed

by W. A. DeLong

Every farmer knows that poor land must be manured if a reasonably good crop is to be obtained from it. It is less well known, however, that the *crops from poor land often make poor manure*, and that in the long run, even with manuring, conditions may go from bad to worse. This fact was well illustrated in some recent work done at Macdonald College on soils, crops, and manures. Some of the results were as follows.

Manure from animals fed on crops grown on good soil contained 18 pounds of phosphorus per ton of dry matter. Animals fed on crops from poor soil produced manure containing only 10 pounds of phosphorus per ton, or only slightly more than half as much as in the first case. Similarly, timothy hay grown on good soil contained 3.3 pounds of phosphorus per ton; that grown on poor soil only 2.1 pounds, that is, one-third less. Clover hay from poor soil contained only half as much phosphorus as that from good soil.

It is readily seen from the figures just given that the poor soil produced crops very much poorer in phosphorus than the good soil, and that these in turn yielded manure low in phosphorus. This is a very important matter since in Quebec the lighter soils generally are low in available phosphorus. It is clear that on such soils a "vicious cycle" easily may be set up with the land growing poorer and poorer in available phosphorus content.

There is another effect, and this may touch the pocket-book much more directly. Since phosphorus is needed by dairy cows to produce milk and by the growing stock to produce bone, it is apparent that the poorer land produced the poorer feed for these purposes, in so far at least as the amount of phosphorus it contained is concerned. Thus,

the timothy and clover from the poor land had only 36% and 50% respectively of the phosphorus present in these crops from the good land.

How Fertilizing Pays

What can be done about this situation? We have some information on that too. From the results of experiments on the poor soil it has been found that when this is limed and fertilized the crops contain more phosphorus. For example, it was found in one case that the amounts of phosphorus in pounds per ton of timothy and of clover hay were increased to 3.4 and 3.8 pounds respectively, or were 162% and 158% greater than for the untreated soil. From the standpoint of their phosphorus content the hays from the limed and fertilized soil should be better feed on a pound for pound basis. There are experiments with stock which indicate that such is actually the case.

In addition, higher yields were obtained from the treated soil. As an average of one year's results for timothy and of two years for clover, the increases in yield produced by liming and fertilizing this poor soil were 30% and 50% respectively.

We have found that liming and fertilizing this poor soil produced more hay of higher phosphorous content, the manure from which will return more phosphorus to the soil. Fortunately lime and superphosphate are in good supply, even in these days of war-time scarcity. By their intelligent use the "vicious cycle" may be reversed. In these times when the need for maximum crop and livestock production is so great every effort should be made to do this. Let's change poor land — poor feed to richer land — richer feed!

New Dairy Products Subsidies

The new Federal subsidies on dairy products, announced recently by Minister of Agriculture Gardiner, are as follows:

Butter: The present subsidy of 10c per pound butter-fat on cream going into creamery butter will continue in effect throughout the year instead of dropping back to 8c on May 1st as would have been the case under the old policy.

Fluid Milk: The subsidy of 55c per hundredweight on fluid milk will be continued only until April 30, when it will drop to 35c for the period May 1 to September 30, when it will again go up to 55c until April 30, 1945. In areas where the subsidy was 25c that will continue as before. The 35c subsidy, which will be in effect in the summer months, will be 10c better than was the case last summer.

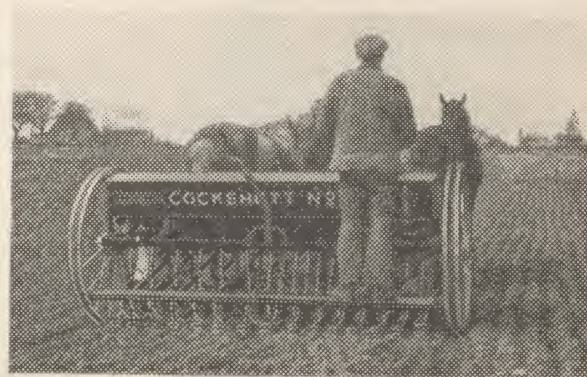
Milk for Cheese: On cheddar cheese milk the present

subsidy of 30c will continue to April 30, when it will drop to 20c per hundredweight, and will continue at that rate from then on. Last summer there was no corresponding subsidy in effect.

Concentrated Milk: The 30c subsidy on concentrated whole milk will run only until April 30, when it will drop to 15c until September 30, rising again on that date to 30c. Last summer there was no subsidy in effect, so that the 15c now granted is an improvement to that extent.

Butter Ration: The W.P.T.B. has announced a temporary reduction in the present butter ration. Due dates of coupons 54 and 55, which were scheduled to become valid on March 16, have been postponed until March 23 and 30 respectively. Thereafter one butter coupon per week will come due, instead of two coupons every two weeks. The reduction in March amounts to half a pound per person.

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IMPORTANT

Sale of farm implements is still limited by Government rationing. If you can keep your present equipment in operation by prompt repairs and replacement of genuine Cockshutt Parts, by all means do so. If, however, your need is urgent, make an application, through your Authorized Cockshutt Dealer, for a permit to buy. Use the services of your Authorized Cockshutt Dealer for either repair or replacement, he is ready to serve you in every way possible.

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Preparing the Soil for the Victory Garden

by H. R. Murray

It has been said frequently — and truly — that fertilizers, good seed and the best of care will not insure the success of a garden unless the soil is of good texture and has been well prepared. Thorough preparation of the soil is of utmost importance in the growing of victory garden vegetables. Poor soil preparation invariably results in fewer plants, regardless of the quality of the seed. Furthermore, no amount of cultivation or surface scratching throughout the summer will make up for poor or indifferent soil preparation before planting.

The requirements of seeds for sprouting are moisture, air and the best temperature for the kind of seed in question. These conditions of moisture, air and temperature are influenced directly by the soil and the manner in which it is handled at planting time.

When the land is ready for preparation victory gardeners will find a variety of conditions facing them. Some will have sod land, while others will have land which has been cultivated previously. Others will have land which will be plowed or spaded this spring — or perhaps it was plowed or spaded last fall.

In spite of these different conditions, no confusion need exist. Two examples of preparation — one for land which has produced a crop before and one for sod land — will cover practically all cases.

Spading

We will assume that spading is to be the first operation and the land has produced a crop before. Spading is hard work and requires time to be done properly, so do not attempt to spade the whole garden at one time. Make arrangements to do this work in easy stages. Calculate the space needed for the first planting (hardy group), then measure and stake it. Dig out the first row of spadefuls of soil and move them down to the end of the area which has been marked for immediate spading, i.e. to where the spading is to stop. Dig out the next row, turning each spadeful so that the top of the lifted soil will be at the bottom and the bottom at the top, as it is lifted and thrown into the empty space left by removal of the first row of spadefuls.

When digging or spading place your foot on top of the spade and use the weight of your body to sink the spade right down to its full depth, at the same time keeping it almost perpendicular. Use the ledge of solid ground as a pry in lifting out the spadeful.

The soil should be broken down into small particles during the spring preparation, and the smaller the seed, the smaller should be the particles. The soil should come in contact with the seed at as many points as possible and should be firmed around the seed, so that the water in the soil can continue to move up to the seed from the reserves in the subsoil.



Soil should be dug to the full depth of the spade.

This firming is necessary also to prevent excessive drying out. Take care, however, not to pack the soil, as packing will interfere with aeration and the emerging of the sprouts.

Finally, since you cannot control the temperature of the soil, wait until it has been dried and warmed sufficiently by the sun before doing any planting.

When is the Soil Ready?

Many victory gardeners will not know when their soil is ready to work and so will ask as one of their first questions, "Is the soil ready for working or is it still too wet?" There is a simple test for finding this out. Pick up a handful of soil and squeeze it. If the land is ready to work, the ball of soil formed by squeezing should hold its shape, yet crumble easily when touched. It must not be sticky or pasty.

To try to work the heavier types of soil when they are too wet is asking for trouble. Premature working is likely to destroy their physical structure and may result in the formation of hard lumps, which will make the soil hard to work for the rest of the summer.

Sandy soils may be worked when they are quite wet because they are not sticky soils. However, it is impossible to make a good seedbed with any soil if it is wet.

If the spade should strike subsoil at this depth (easily recognized because it is considerably lighter in color) lessen the depth until the cutting edge of the spade just touches this lighter layer. Each year spading may go a little deeper until the soil has been worked to the full depth of the spade. In this way a shallow soil will be deepened gradually without turning too much subsoil to the surface at one time. Continue spading in a straight line across row until the job is finished, filling up the last space with the soil which

was removed from the first row of spadefuls. Try to keep your spading level as it will save time later.

Firming and Raking

Freshly spaded soil, fall spaded soil, freshly plowed soil and fall plowed soil may all be treated in the same manner. Break up as many lumps as possible with the drawhoe, at the same time levelling where necessary. In the farm victory garden this work may be done by the disc and smoothing harrow. A greater amount of levelling will be required if the land has been plowed. The next step is the "firming" of the soil. Freshly turned soil will require more firming than fall plowed or fall spaded soil. The simplest way to do this firming is to stamp it. Starting at one end, tramp forward and backward until the whole area has been covered once.

To avoid unnecessary loss of moisture, do not leave the garden until the freshly tramped soil has been lightly raked to form a mulch.

During the raking, you should further level the soil, at the same time removing lumps, and debris. Do not, however, pile up loose soil by raking too heavily. The weight of the rake should be supported by either the right or left hand; the rake should not be allowed to ride with its full weight upon the soil. Always hold it with two hands. Many of our older gardeners are known to have a "light hand" for raking, indicating that they are well-experienced.

If the soil is in sod it will be a much harder task to work it, as the grass roots must be removed from the area which is to be planted to small seed (these will be mostly hardy and half-hardy plants). This is because it is almost impossible to keep small seedlings growing thriftily, in rows from which the grass roots have not been removed before seeding. However, the removal of grass roots is not necessary in the area which is to be planted to larger plants, such as beans, sweet corn, potatoes, squash, etc., as these plants may be adapted to hill planting where the grass and weeds may be kept under control by the frequent use of a sharp hoe.



To find out if the soil is ready for working pick up a handful and squeeze it. If ready, the ball will hold its shape yet crumble easily when touched.

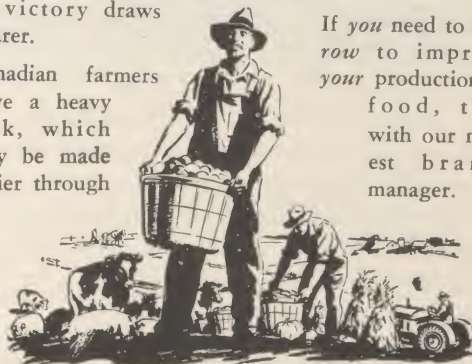
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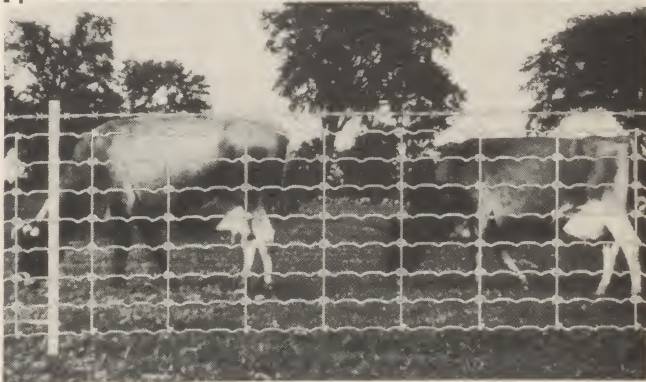


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Montreal

W. K. Hodgins, Outstanding Ottawa Valley Farmer

by L. G. Heimpel

The Shawville district in the Ottawa Valley has many outstanding farms and farmers, and not a few of these are located on the Portage Road, a gravel highway connecting the town of Shawville with Portage du Fort, on the Ottawa River, which is just opposite Renfrew on the Ontario side. Much of the land along this road is of the heavy clay type, rapidly becoming famous for its ability to grow alfalfa for a considerable number of years without re-seeding.

Certainly one of the outstanding farms, from the standpoint of the appearance of the buildings, as the passerby sees them, is that of Mr. W. K. Hodgins, some four miles south of the town of Shawville. The brick house, spacious barn and well-kept surroundings indicate that here lives a prosperous and happy farm family, because, as a general rule, the size and condition of farm buildings give a good indication of the productiveness of the soil comprising the farm and the skill of the farmer.

As is the case with many farms of the Shawville district, this is not a highly specialized farm, but a diversified or mixed farm of 120 acres, 85 acres of which are cultivated. Livestock consists of 12 cows with a usual winter herd of 40 head of cattle. There are also kept, as a general thing, from 20 to 30 pigs, 4 horses and a fairly large poultry flock of the general farm type.

While this farm is located in the so-called alfalfa belt, Mr. Hodgins is not yet certain that to specialize in alfalfa would be good policy. One field of fairly steep slopes, it is true, has been kept in alfalfa as a general thing for a number of years. The last time it was plowed up it had been in this crop for 13 years, which is some indication of the suitability of this land to alfalfa growing. When we visited the farm, near the end of July, Mr. Hodgins was cutting a good crop of mixed hay, a fairly good percentage of which was alfalfa, it being the owner's opinion that in this way first class feed can be produced for all classes of stock, without running the risk of failure should alfalfa alone be depended upon. There is no silo on the farm, the hay crop being depended upon to supply roughage of good quality for all classes of stock. Mr. Hodgins prefers a six-year rotation, because he feels that once the land is sown to his usual hay mixture, it is economical to leave it down per-

haps a year or two longer than is possible in some of the lighter soils in the district. Since he was brought up on this farm, and has been farming it himself for 20 years, he is probably right.

A Well Engineered Farm

No one can visit this farm without coming to the conclusion that its owner is not only a first-class farmer but a first-class mechanic. The farm house was built by Mr. Hodgins' father with the assistance of his son, now the owner. Walls and ceilings of the house are finished in ash in an unusual mosaic design extremely well executed. Indeed, it is not often that one comes across a combination of such a high degree of skill as a farmer and also as a mechanic. The other buildings of the farm all have good design and workmanship in their makeup.

Mr. Hodgins loves mechanical equipment and his policy plainly is to let machines do the hard work of chores and other farm jobs whenever possible. Between the house and barn stands a long low building, perhaps not imposing from outside appearance, but packed with interesting labor-saving equipment from one end to the other. In one end of the building is a work-shop, the power plant of which is an air-cooled gas engine of some 4 or 5 horse power. This machine drives a whole battery of machines, every one of which would be very useful on any farm. There is the fanning mill, rip-saw with a sanding drum, emery wheel and water pump, while a line shaft extends to the next room in the building to drive the cream separator.

This second room also is so well appointed for its purpose that it must be a great comfort, particularly in the winter months. It is the dairy room, in the centre of which is placed a coal heater to keep out the frost. In one end of the room is a farm lighting plant, which with its storage batteries provides light for house and barn, since power line current is not yet available in this community.

There is still another engine in the pump-house at the barn where a second water pump is located, and this engine is also used to drive the vacuum pump for the milking machine, which has only recently been installed. Mr. Hodgins also has a tractor, of the 10-20 size upon which



The farm home was built by Mr. Hodgins and his father.



The owner cutting a heavy crop of mixed hay.



The farmstead is neat and well organized.

he depends for all the heavy tillage work on the farm. Though four horses are kept, the owner says that they are old and not nearly of the quality which would be necessary had the horses to do the heavy work. In fact, he says that four horses are not necessary and when the present horses get beyond the age of usefulness, not all of them will be replaced. This, incidentally, is the story on many farms where tractors have been acquired.

World War Veteran

This farmer is perhaps one of the few who went through four years of World War I, and came back in perfectly good condition. He was a member of the Third Siege Battery, familiarly known in army circles as Major Cape's Chorus Girls. Out of his experience in the army in England comes an interesting story. Mr. Hodgins noted, while quartered in the neighborhood of Folkestone in Dover, that the large well which supplied the town of Folkestone with water, was fed by long tunnels radiating from a central well through the chalk for considerable distances. These tunnels connect the underground water and carry it to the central well, from which it is pumped for distribution. Now, Mr. Hodgins' own farm was never too plentifully supplied with water though there are two wells between the house and barn dug to depths of about 30 feet for this purpose. When he came back from the war he wondered whether a tunnel to connect the two wells would not do the same for their water supply as did the tunnels through the chalk of Folkestone. After discussing it with his father, they set to work to put the idea to the test. As a result a 6-foot tunnel was started at a point about 20 feet from the ground surface, the clay subsoil being so firm that the job was completed without timbering. The results were good, as the farm has never since been short of water. Certainly this is unusual procedure in Canadian farm practice, but Mr. Hodgins is an unusual man in many respects. And this tunnel is perhaps no more unusual than is the well-equipped workshop with which this farm is kept in such good condition. For assistance in doing the usual farm work, this owner is dependent on hired help, which at present is practically unavailable. However, with things as handy as they are around the place, this farmer considers that he is considerably better off than many of his neighbors.

"Times have not always been easy," says Mr. Hodgins, "but, with reasonable prices for our products, a good living and a happy life are still possible on farms of this size, even though they are located perhaps too far from large centres to permit any high degree of specialization." Mr. Hodgins does stress, however, that farm prices are a critical factor in the farmer's wellbeing.

American Sailor: "Battleships! Why! the flagship of our navy is so big that the captain goes around the deck in his auto."

British Sailor: "You ought to see our flagship! Have a look at the kitchen. It's so large the cook has to go through the Irish Stew in a submarine to see if the potatoes are cooked."



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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Activities, Plans and Policies of the Quebec

Department of Agriculture

Apple Growers Review Progress of Fifty Years

The largest crowd on record attended the fiftieth anniversary meeting of the Quebec Pomological Society at the Queen's Hotel in Montreal on February 24 and 25 and taxed the capacity of the assembly rooms in both the French and the English sections. As far as the annual banquet was concerned, well over one hundred people found it impossible to get into the dining room and had to be content to stand around the room after the banquet to hear the speakers and watch the floor show.

The two-day conference was opened by President Edgar B. Standish who gave a brief history of the Society since its organization on November 14, 1893. Since the first meeting held on February 8, 1894, the Society has grown from an original membership of about one hundred growers to the eight hundred now on the membership rolls. Mr. Standish foresaw a bright future for the apple juice industry and stated that the Rougemont plant had last year turned out 100,000 gallons, half of which had been fortified with vitamin C and sold to the armed forces. He also predicted a growing demand for apple cider.

At the afternoon session Prof. L. G. Heimpel with the help of lantern slides reviewed the history of spraying equipment and demonstrated the improvements and advances that had been made in the past fifty years, up to the newly-devised "speed sprayer" which operates by a combination of pressure and air-blast to give a powerful and widely-distributed spray. M. B. Davis, Dominion Horticulturist, went back to the records of the Society to enumerate the different varieties that had been recommended from year to year and drew the conclusion that it is still not possible to draw up a list of apple varieties that will prove entirely satisfactory for all purposes. F. S. Browne, discussing fertilizer practices, claimed that if some of the fertilizer recommendations which were made at some of the early meetings of the Society had been followed by all growers our orchards today would be in much better condition. With the exception of suggested remedies for deficiency diseases (such as magnesium deficiency which is apparently spreading), fertilizer recommendations have not changed very much from year to year. C. E. Petch's interesting and witty paper consisted in large parts of extracts from old reports of the meetings of the Society which, he concluded, had been held in a much more leisurely fashion than is now the case.

He noted that the problems discussed in past meetings were not essentially different from those now engaging the attention of the members, and to illustrate the interest in



Four experts snapped at the Pomological Society meeting: F. S. Browne, D. S. Blair, M. B. Davis, all of the C.E.F. and in profile Dr. A. B. Burrell of Cornell University.

the Society told of a man who walked 40 miles on snowshoes to attend the winter meeting in 1901.

Nolasque April spoke of the role of bees in pollinating apple blossoms and Dr. W. C. Hopper of the Economics Branch at Ottawa dealt with the need for a new market for fruits and vegetables in Montreal. He quoted figures to show that of all food eaten by the average person in 1943, only 7% was fruit, and thought that this could and should be increased. The value of fruit in the diet should be made part of advertising which should be directed primarily at those in the lower income groups who at present are not heavy fruit users. A modern terminal market in Montreal from which fruit could be distributed quickly and at minimum cost to retailers he considered a necessity. From figures obtained from growers in the vicinity of Montreal it had been estimated that a modern market, large enough to allow freedom of movement for buyers and sellers, could save, in a single summer, about 150,000 farmer man hours and would save from loss through deterioration of produce, about \$90,000. Saving in time of retail buyers would amount to \$150,000 a year and the total saving would equal the interest on an investment of some seven million dollars—considerably more than the cost of constructing a modern market to replace crowded Bonsecours. He emphasized that a new building which would provide facilities to handle greatly increased volume would be of direct benefit to all growers by providing a larger demand for their products from wholesale and retail buyers.

The report of the Marketing Committee was given by Roswell Thomson, who predicted a large surplus of high quality apples for export in Quebec in the next few years. He warned however that these markets would disappear unless apples were marketed in strict accordance with grading regulations.

Resolutions drafted by the resolutions committee and approved by the meeting included one addressed to the City of Montreal urging the construction of a modern fruits and vegetable market which might be a project undertaken during the reconstruction period. The Department of Roads was asked to consult orchard owners before placing snow fences in the fall, to avoid damage to apple trees which occurred when these fences were not carefully located. It was thought that damage caused by snow fences to orchards should be made good by those responsible. Both Provincial and Federal Departments of Agriculture were asked to contribute to the building of a plant for cold storage research at Macdonald College where investigations into cold storage problems could be carried out which would benefit all fruit growers of the province. The Provincial Horticultural service was also asked to place a fruit by-products expert on the staff of the Horticulture Service to investigate new uses for apple by-products.

Talks corresponding to those reported above were given in the French section of the meeting by J. H. Lavoie, J. E. Duchesne, P. E. Roy, Georges Maheux and Henri Dubord.

Greetings from the United States

The guest speaker at the annual banquet was Dr. Arthur B. Burrell of Cornell University. Quoting figures for the United States, he pointed out that while there was an increase in consumption of citrus fruits and bananas, apple consumption was on the decrease and advocated advertising and whole-hearted support of producers' associations.



Dr. Burrell, guest speaker at the banquet. Beside him are Edgar Standish, retiring president and Emilien Faille, the incoming president.

He predicted a drop in apple prices following the war and felt that to meet conditions that would develop it was necessary to plan now to maintain or raise quality and volume while keeping down the cost of production. Overhead costs become excessive when yield per acre is low: the objective to be aimed at is 300 bushels per acre. Similarly with spraying, one of the most costly items in an apple grower's programme. It should be possible to put on 200 gallons of spray solution per man hour: less than this is not economical. Another suggestion was that growers pay particular attention to spraying the tops of the trees; in trees so sprayed, rain washes the poison downward and redistributes it throughout the rest of the tree. He claimed that good spraying with milder substances than lime sulphur would give control with less spray damage. He also stated that dusting is coming back into favour: new and improved machinery is doing faster and better work than was possible before. He reported that good results had been obtained in overcoming biennial bearing by spraying the blossoms with *Elgetol* which thinned them enough to overcome the biennial habit, but warned that this was not safe in the hands of anyone but an expert.

William Anderson, a perennial and always welcome visitor from Vermont, brought greetings from the Champlain Valley and W. A. Fraser, M.P. of Trenton, Ont. represented Ontario growers.

New Officers and Directors

The following were elected to office for the coming year: President, Emilien Faille of Franklin Centre: Vice-president, Roswell Thomson, Abbotsford. W. J. Tawse and Ed. Duchesne continue as joint secretaries. Directors are Charles A. Waller, D. M. Laurie, John Gillepsie, H. Huseau, C. A. Pinsonnault, Harold Palmer, Ed. Bienvenue, Rene Primeau, A. Dufresne, and W. A. Churchill. Chairman of the markets committee will be L. Lafontaine: E. Faille and Roswell Thomson will represent the Society on the Canadian Horticultural Council. Premier Godbout was named patron and A. N. Laberge of Chateaugay honorary president.

New Agronome in Bellechasse

Mr. J. E. Lemire has announced the appointment of Mr. Jean Pintal as agronome for the northern part of the County of Bellechasse comprising the parishes of St. Valier St. Michel, Beaumont, St. Charles and La Durantaye. His headquarters will be at St. Michel.

Mr. Pintal is a graduate of Oka in the class of 1939, and for the past three years he has been working as agronome in Bonaventure County. The post to which he is going at St. Michel was formerly held by Bruno Potvin who is now with the Division of Publicity and Research.

Teacher: Junior, give me a sentence using the word "diadem".

Junior: People who drive over busy railroad crossings without looking diadem sight quicker than those who stop, look and listen.

Live Stock Meetings of Interest

by A. R. Ness

Toronto was an active live stock center during the month of February. A large number of the purebred live stock associations held annual meetings at which expansion and growth were recorded and a spirit of enthusiasm prevailed. Much of the actual business of the year of these associations is done in committee but is presented for ratification at these annual meetings. The reports of the various secretaries recorded considerable increase in business and the large attendance of directors and members from all provinces of the Dominion indicated a thriving and growing live stock Dominion-wide enterprise. The dairy breeds associations, including the Holstein, Ayrshire, Jersey and Guernsey, all reported substantial increases in registrations, transfers and exports over former years. Each one of these association in some form or other reported the best business year since its inception.

Unfortunately, not all of the breeds could report increases in the number of cows on R.O.P. during the year 1943. The shortage of labour was reported as the main cause, although even in spite of labour shortage most of the dairy breeds had increased the number of cows on test.

Herd type classification received quite a bit of attention. The Holstein and Jersey Associations have had their systems of type classification in force for some years. The Ayrshire Association has been particularly active during the past year classifying many herds, and the Guernsey breeders passed a resolution at their meeting adopting herd classification. The directors of the Guernsey Breeders Association met on the farm of Mr. Creed, where a large herd of Guernsey cattle was available for a type classification demonstration at which Eastern, Western and Central Canadian directors were present. Other meetings, such as the Beef Cattle Associations as well as sheep and swine, dealt with problems peculiar to their business and again practically all reported increased business in 1943, as shown by registrations and transfers.

Some of the horse breeders associations also reported increased registrations, and healthy discussions took place as to how best to improve the place of the horse in our agricultural set-up.

Resignations were submitted by two secretaries: Roy Grant, Secretary of the Guernsey Breeders Association, and J. W. Wheaton, Secretary of the Clydesdale Horse Breeders Association. The Clydesdale Breeders were fortunate in securing Mr. Tom Devlin of Winnipeg as their secretary, while the Guernsey Breeders Association has not yet made an appointment.

In all these various associations, breeders were honoured for various achievements and cows were honoured for the highest records of milk and butterfat for the year just ended or for lifetime production. One of the most appropriate and

unique recognitions took place at the banquet of the Shorthorn Breeders Associations. For many years Professor of Animal Husbandry at the Ontario Agricultural College and later Executive Secretary of the Shorthorn Breeders Association, Professor George E. Day and Mrs. Day were presented with a portrait of Professor Day and a bouquet of roses for his good wife. Professor Day is one of the most highly respected men in live stock circles throughout the Dominion of Canada. The presentation was fittingly made by W. A. Dryden, representing the Shorthorn Breeders, and by Dr. G. I. Christie, President of the Ontario Agricultural College, representing the College Alumni. This portrait will hang in the Saddle and Sirloin Club in Chicago, in which club can be seen an historic collection of paintings of eminent live stock men of this continent.

Live stock breeders are planners and builders. They are always looking to the future. Besides reviewing the work of their respective associations of the past year and laying plans for the year that lies ahead, they are consistently seeking information from whatever source it is available. The educational features of these annual gatherings are not the least important. Many men in prominent positions addressed the breeders either at their banquets, luncheons or in regular session. Lord de la Warr, Chairman of the British Agricultural Research Council, spoke at meetings of the Canadian Swine Breeders, Ontario Horse Breeders Club, and the Canadian Percheron Breeders Association. The Honourable Colonel George Drew, Premier of the Province of Ontario, spoke at the Jersey Breeders luncheon. Mr. H. W. Coverdale, President of the Canada Steamships and owner of the LeMoines Point Farm, as well as R. S. Kennedy, Editor-in-Chief of the Family Herald and Weekly Star, spoke at the luncheon of the Ayrshire Breeders Association. Mr. Gratton O'Leary, of Ottawa, spoke on the subject of "Standing Between Two Worlds" at the banquet of the Dominion Shorthorn Breeders Association. Mr. George Newland, Manager of Cesar's Farm, Michigan, addressed the Guernsey Breeders Association at their luncheon. Although the Canadian Holstein Breeders Association was unable to arrange a banquet at the time of their annual session, two prominent speakers spoke to them during the course of their meetings: Mr. L. A. N. Peters, Chairman of the Cattle Committee of the Netherlands Economic Mission, and Dr. W. R. Graham, who is attached to the Research Department of the Cerophyl Laboratories, Kansas City, Mo. Mr. Allen McGregor, Vice-President of the American Aberdeen Angus Association, addressed the Canadian Aberdeen Angus Breeders when in session.

These are but a few of the prominent men who spoke at the time of the annual gatherings of our breeders meeting in Toronto.

Belgian Breeders Meet

The tenth annual meeting of the Quebec Belgian Horse Breeders Association was held in Montreal early last month but too late to be reported in our February issue. Thirteen breeders' syndicates were represented and all brought reports of their activities during the past year.

Messrs. J. A. Ste. Marie and G. Toupin pointed out that there would be a great demand for horses after the war and suggested that steps should be taken now to prepare to meet the demand. We will likely have several thousand horses to sell, and it was resolved to ask the Provincial authorities to make a survey to determine how many would be available for export and to advise the London representative in good time.

The following Belgian breeders in the districts of Bagot and St. Hyacinthe, all of whom have rendered signal service to the breed in the past ten years, were decorated with the insignia of great merit: S. J. Chagnon, O. Lavigne, Donat Girard, A. Nichols, E. Lagace, J. E. Michon, O. Blanchard, C. L. Meunier, A. Giard, U. Boulay, A. Lussier, Ernest Roy, U. Archambault, G. Fontaine and M. Michon.

Officers elected for the coming year are Hon. Antonio Elie, President, J. A. Ste. Marie, Vice-President, A. Delisle, Secretary. Directors are Messrs. Roland Pigeon, E. Bissonnette, A. Nichols, Jos. Elie, J. A. Beausejour, M. Joubert and H. Rheault.

The 1944 Agricultural Merit Competition

During 1944 the fifty-fourth Agricultural Merit Competition will be held in District 5, comprising the entire northern part of the province from Abitibi to the Gulf of St. Lawrence. The counties involved are those of Abitibi, Bonaventure, Charlevoix, Chicoutimi, Gaspé North, Gaspé South, Lake St. John, Matane, Matapédia, Rimouski, Roberval and Saguenay.

Any farmer in any of these counties may enter the competition. Applications must be made to the Department before next June and must have the prior approval of the district agronomes. Forms of application are now ready and may be obtained from any agronome or direct from Mr. J. A. Rioux at Quebec.

The competition was last held in District 5 in 1939, when one hundred and forty six farms were entered. The winner in that year was Mr. Elzear Vallee of St. Felicien, Roberval County.

Two farmers met on a country road and reined up their teams.
 "Si," said Josh, "one of my mules has distemper. What did you give yours when he had it?"
 "Turpentine. Giddap."
 A week later they met again.
 "Say, Si, I gave my mule turepentine and it killed him."
 "Killed mine too. Giddap."

Farm Labour Office Still Operates

Although the crisis seems to have been safely passed in the farm labour situation, the Provincial farm labour bureau will continue in operation during the coming year to help farmers obtain the necessary assistance in their operations. This bureau was set up last year to bring together farmers who needed hired men and men who were looking for farm work. During the 1943 season more than 3,500 men were placed in positions on farms in Quebec. In addition to these, the 920 intensive production committees placed more than 10,000 other men on farms throughout the province.

The Provincial farm labour bureau works in close association with the Provincial and Federal Departments of Labour and with National Selective Service. Men released from war industries or demobilized from the armed forces will be directed into farm jobs if they possess the necessary experience. Therefore it is important that farmers who need help should advise the Provincial bureau of that fact. Requests from dairy farmers will receive first consideration, followed by those growing sugar beets, then market gardeners, then other growers.

The two offices are located at 31 St. James St. W., Montreal and at 90 St. Joseph St., Quebec.

Mr. Dansereau Named Liaison Officer

We are fortunate in Quebec in having such good understanding and co-operation between the Provincial and the Federal Departments of Agriculture. In many different projects the representatives of these two services work very closely together. But experience has shown that lack of personal contact has often resulted in misunderstandings and difficulty. Arrangements which have to be carried out by correspondence are not always satisfactory and at the best are time-consuming.

Therefore, the Department has decided to appoint a man whose duty it will be to act as contact man between the two departments and carry on all the necessary negotiations on all projects which are undertaken in common, the number of which has greatly increased under war conditions.

Mr. F. A. Dansereau, B.S.A. has been appointed to this new position. He is a graduate of Oka, in the class of 1930 and has been, since early in 1943, associate director of the Provincial Farm Labour Bureau.

New Hatchery Opened

The first co-operative hatchery in the St. Johns district was officially opened last month at Iberville. The building, modern in every respect, is 60 feet long, 34 feet wide, is well lighted and is admirably suited to the purpose for which it is intended. The incubator has a capacity of 66,000 eggs and cost \$7,800.00.

It is hoped that an egg-candling station will soon be established in connection with the new hatchery.

What more can a farmer do



to hasten Victory?



many European farms, the wave of war has
d. Buildings have been burned to the ground.
s have been ruined. Livestock has been
ghtered or driven away. Men, women and
ren have been killed, or have joined the ranks
e guerrillas. On Canadian farms, although
work is hard, the hours long, peaceful condi-
still prevail.

farm and factory and office, thousands of
g men have gone to battle, to make sure that
and will be kept free from the scourge of war
ll time to come. They are fighting *our* battle.

, over there, the great fight is crashing to a
x. What can a farmer do to hasten victory?

The Canadian farmer can do a twofold job. First, he can continue to produce the food the Allies must have. Second, with the money he receives for his produce, he can purchase Victory Bonds. Then his money will work for victory, and help to buy the tools of war. It will work for the farmer too, by paying him interest every half year. It will be available later to purchase new equipment or make improvements to farm homes and buildings.

Very soon now the Sixth Victory Loan will be opened. Canadian farmers will be more eager than ever to loan their money to bring the war to a speedy end. Surely *you* will purchase bonds with every dollar you can, and so help to bring Canada's young men home again soon.

Buy Victory Bonds!

National Sheep Committee Plans Improvement

A programme involving the establishment of a standard for all breeds, the carcass grading of market lambs, the production of wool more suitable for our market requirements and the further study of better feeding and management practice in the handling of sheep was sponsored by the National Sheep Committee Meeting held in Ottawa recently. Representatives from all the Eastern Provinces as well as from some sections of the west were in attendance.

One of the highlights of the conference was the exhibit of sheep and lambs. Representative specimens of the Canadian Corriedale, the Romnellet and Rambouillet had been brought from Western Canada. From the east representatives of the various crosses being made at our Experimental Farms and Colleges were on display. These representatives served to center attention on the work being done and the progress already achieved in developing a type of sheep suitable to conditions in both Eastern and Western Canada. In this connection, it is pleasing to report a gratifying degree of success, particularly in the west where sheep have become an important economic factor. The Canadian Corriedale and the Romnellet in particular have been developed to the point where they can make some claim to being an all round farmer's sheep for both Eastern and Western conditions. The work on cross breeding was not conclusive and is to be carried further.

Carcass grading was suggested as one of the most practical and effective ways of achieving rapid improvement in our market lambs. Carcasses were obtained from the local packing plant to illustrate the grades being followed and the types of lambs being marketed. In discussing this topic, Mr. James Graham, Federal Live Stock Fieldman, pointed to the success already achieved in the Maritimes where it has actually been in effect for the past two years. He explained that the farmers as a group were favorable

to the idea once it was understood by them and that rapid improvement in the type of lamb marketed had been effected.

Professor L. H. Hamilton dealt with the question of "Breed Standards". He stated that up to the present our industry had suffered because of the lack of a standard for our breeds to follow and that this was best illustrated at our shows where in the smaller breeds the "Pocket-Sized edition" had won the awards and to a large extent were ruined from a practical farmer's standpoint, while in the larger breeds fads and fancies were indulged in and resulted in an inferior type of commercial sheep. Since the purpose of the Conference was to lay a pattern for the future development of the sheep industry, the question of establishing a commercial type of sheep more suitable to our conditions was of primary importance. Type in this sense referred to size, confirmation, wool, adaptability and usefulness, or the kind of sheep best adapted to our conditions and best suited for the production of the most desirable market lamb. He pointed out that this was not a new idea; that it had been used in New Zealand and to some extent practised in Canada, but that no definite standards had been agreed upon. This lack of agreement had resulted in misunderstandings and disappointing results. He urged the immediate setting up of standards to which all breeds should aim.

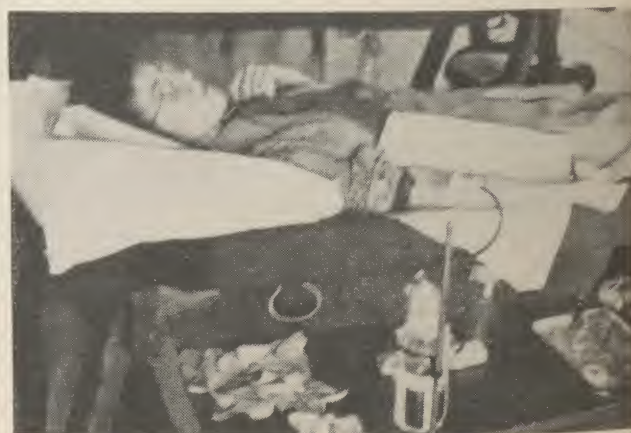
Other papers presented included a summary of our knowledge on nutrition, parasite control, and wool merchandising.

Sheep farming in Eastern Canada has not increased or improved during the war years to the same extent as some other classes of stock. It is timely therefore that this Conference should have been held and some new impetus given to fact finding and promotion work.

Dominion Entomologist Appointed

H. G. Crawford, M.Sc., B.S.A., has been appointed Dominion Entomologist in succession to the late Dr. L. S. McLaine. Mr. Crawford is a Master of Science of the University of Illinois, a Bachelor of Science in Agriculture of the Ontario Agricultural College, and studied at the Nova Scotia Agricultural College and Dalhousie University. He first joined the Entomological Division, or Branch as it was then known, of the Dominion Department of Agriculture in a temporary capacity as summer assistant in 1916 and 1917, and in the following year was appointed Lecturer on the Entomological Staff of the Ontario Agricultural College. In 1920 he returned to the Dominion Department of Agriculture and in 1925 was promoted Chief, Division of Field Crop and Garden Insect Investigations, a position he held until his recent promotion.

Helping A Worthy Cause



One of the co-eds makes a deposit in the Red Cross Blood Bank.



CO-OPERATION AND MARKETING

A page of interest to members of farmers' co-operatives

Fédérée Continues Expansion



H. C. Bois,
President of the executive
and general manager of
the Co-operative Fédérée.

"Post-war re-adjustments have always been very costly for the farmers. The efficiency of our participation in the settlement of the numerous problems which will then arise will depend on the accuracy and strength of our convictions. . . . Our immediate efforts must be directed towards greater unification of our organization, strengthening the co-operative link, consolidating the financial position, improving our business methods and developing safely our spirit of initiative."

With this warning against over-optimism, J. A. Pinsonneault, president of the Co-opérative Fédérée de Québec, balanced his report of a successful year. The annual meeting of the organization, held in Montreal last month was attended by 350 delegates from most of the 309 affiliated societies. The enthusiasm created by the increase of nearly \$7 million in the year's business was tempered somewhat by the knowledge that conditions in 1943 had been unusual and could not be expected to continue long.

29 additional co-operatives had affiliated in the course of the year and the total business reached the all-time high of \$30,400,000. Patronage dividends showed a good increase over last year at 3/16 cents per pound on butter and cheese; 4% on grain; 5% on balanced rations, chemical fertilizers, insecticides, tile drains, metal roofing, fruit packing materials and binder twine; 1% on flax; 20 cents per head on hogs at the Princeville abattoir; 1 cent per dozen on eggs and 2 cents per 75-pound bag on potatoes.

An offer of 50% of the current patronage dividends on the business done with the Fédérée during the year, was made to unaffiliated societies on condition that they become affiliated by May 1st, 1944.

Feature of the annual meeting, also, was the election of Henri C. Bois, as president of the executive to succeed J. F. Demarais, and of Romeo Martin as Secretary. Three new directors were also elected; Mederic Legault of L'Ascension, Albert Gingras of St. Jerome and Philippe Bouchard of Luceville, Rimouski.

It was noted with regret that two prominent members of the staff of the Fédérée has severed their connection during the year, M. H. Hudon and J. Theo. Roy, the latter for reasons of health, the former to take up other business.

The annual banquet included many prominent guests. Premier Godbout, M. Raynald Ferron of the Department of Agriculture and M. Maurice Colombain of the International Labour Organization were the chief speakers.

M. Colombain spoke on the role of co-operatives as "miniatures of the democratic country, cells of democracy". Premier Godbout urged the members to "be co-operators not only for their personal advantage but also for the welfare of the people".

A special toast was drunk to the 'Rochdale Pioneers', marking the hundredth anniversary of the beginning of the co-operative movement.



Romeo Martin,
Secretary of the
Co-operative Fédérée.

New Co-Op Finishes Successful Year

"The greatest difficulty that a new co-operative has to meet comes from the members themselves", said E. B. Standish of Rougemont, addressing the second general meeting of the shareholders of 'La Société Co-opérative Agricole' of Cowansville recently. Mr. Standish went on to urge the importance of taking time to study their problems. He advised them not to be in too great a hurry to develop new services, but to make sure that they developed an understanding of the meaning of co-operation among their members.

In this first year the new co-operative made 242,768 pounds of butter. After putting \$2300 into new machinery and paying \$2400 on a bank loan there was a net profit of \$680.81. The co-operative is also buying feed grain and fertilizer for its members.

Guy E. Shufelt was re-elected president; Wilfred Noisieux and Selwyn Mason were re-elected directors. Wilfred Moffatt and Stanislas Tremblay were elected as new directors.

The membership is made up of almost equal numbers of French and English-speaking farmers and the meetings are conducted in both languages.

Among the special guests at the anniversary meeting were Mayor Eugene Boisvert, of Cowansville, Mr. Allen Watt, general manager of the Bruck Silk Mills, Mr. J. F. Demarais of the Co-opérative Fédérée, Mr. Paul Gingras, agronome-farmer and one of the pioneers of this co-operative, E. B. Standish, a director of the Rougemont co-operative, L. D. McClintock, agronome of Knowlton, and C. M. Bonin, dairy inspector.

Market Comments

For the first two months of this year prices of live stock have run much below the prices of the corresponding period in 1943. This difference did not apply to good steers which sold at higher prices this year than last. The number of this class sold is not large enough to influence the market to any great degree.

The reason for lower prices may have been a reflection of the numbers coming forward. For the first six weeks of the year the numbers of inspected slaughter recorded a great increase over the same period of the previous year. The number of hogs marketed in the first six weeks was 84 per cent above that of the similar period in 1943. Cattle were up 53, sheep and lambs 40, and calves 25 per cent above the first six weeks of 1943.

Increased interest is reported from some sections in prices of young pigs and brood sows. This has been attributed to the recent bonus plan.

Announcement of the extension of milk bonuses was made recently. The present scale of bonuses will prevail again during the winter of 1944-45. During the summer the bonus on milk for all purposes will be proportionately lower than during the winter season. The rather short supply of butter is being met with a reduction of the ration that is calculated to save one week's supply.

The scarcity of potatoes is being relieved by importations under special arrangements from the United States.

Trend of Prices

| | Feb. 1944 \$ | 1943 Jan. \$ | Feb. 1944 \$ |
|--|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| LIVE STOCK: | | | |
| Steers, good, per cwt..... | 11.70 | 11.82 | 12.12 |
| Cows, good, per cwt..... | 10.10 | 8.42 | 8.43 |
| Cows, common, per cwt..... | 8.05 | 6.50 | 6.68 |
| Canners and cutters, per cwt. | 6.72 | 5.33 | 5.48 |
| Veal, good and choice, per cwt. | 17.15 | 15.25 | 15.60 |
| Veal, common, per cwt..... | 15.65 | 14.18 | 14.00 |
| Lambs, good, per cwt..... | 14.50 | 11.42 | 11.00 |
| Lambs, common, per cwt..... | 12.00 | 9.92 | 10.00 |
| Bacon hogs, dressed, B.1, per cwt. | 17.30 | 17.15 | 17.15 |
| ANIMAL PRODUCTS | | | |
| Butter, per lb..... | 0.36 | 0.35 | 0.35 |
| Cheese, per lb..... | 0.22 | 0.21 | 0.20 |
| Eggs, Grade A large, per doz. | 0.37 | 0.37 | 0.35½ |
| Chickens, live, 5 lb. plus, per lb. | 0.30½ | 0.27 | 0.28½ |
| Chickens, dressed, milk fed, A per lb. | 0.34 | 0.35 | 0.36 |
| FRUITS AND VEGETABLES: | | | |
| Apples, B.C. McIntosh, extra fancy, per box | 2.40-3.00 | 3.70 | 3.80 |
| Potatoes, Quebec No. 1, per 75 lb. bag..... | 1.65-1.80 | 1.70-1.75 | 1.80-1.85 |
| FEEDS: | | | |
| Bran, per ton | 29.00 | 29.00 | 29.00 |

JUNE SILAGE . . . (Cont'd from page 4)

have short racks, on which the loader can do most of the loading, and from which the crop may be unloaded as easily as possible, preferably by some sling or dumping arrangement at the cutter.

At best the handling of clover silage with the equipment ordinarily available on most farms is hard work. It is, therefore, not surprising that during recent years attention has been given to the development of machines, called field forage harvesters, designed to cut the standing crop or pick it up from a windrow, elevate, cut and load it in a wagon or truck, all in one operation. Such machines, when perfected, may greatly decrease the cost of producing clover silage, especially on large farms where they may be most profitably employed.

Filling

To apply the molasses, or other preservative, in the proper amount to each load, some device for measuring and feeding the preservative into the cutter must be provided. The silo must also come in for some consideration. Walls and doors must be tight, even more so than for corn silage. Close packing of the silage is also very important. Since this depends, in part, upon the height of silage it may be well to consider before starting to ensile a crop whether it will provide sufficient depth for adequate pressure in the size of silo available. The closeness of the packing will also depend on the length of cut. It is best to have the silage as finely cut as possible and to do this the knives must be kept sharp. Careful levelling and tramping are also necessary.

Surface decay may be greatly reduced by not allowing any more than a day or two to elapse between fillings. If operations have to be suspended over a longer period it would be worth while to provide a temporary seal with tar paper covered by a layer of silage. Finally the silo should be capped off with some fresh juicy material that will provide a suitable sealing layer.



**"For results that
pay — feed the
PIONEER way"**

says Mr. Pioneer

PIONEER
Profit Proven **FEEDS**



THE WOMEN'S INSTITUTES SECTION

*Devoted to the activities of the Quebec Institutes
and to matters of interest to them*

Jam for Britain

by Rosamond Stevenson

(Mrs. Allan Stevenson, National Director, Nutrition Services, Canadian Red Cross Society, 95 Wellesley St., Toronto.)

PART II

Several weeks ago a letter was received from Lady Reading, who is head of the Women's Voluntary Services in Britain, expressing their appreciation of the jam and paying tribute to the organization of this enterprise in Canada. It is through the Women's Voluntary Services that the jam, jelly and honey is distributed to the bombed-out victims and to the war nurseries.

When the Red Cross first started this project, women throughout the country were allowed to make the jam in their own kitchens if they desired. Recipes were supplied to them, but when the jam was received at the central warehouse there was a sad tale to tell. Mrs. Jones, Mrs. Smith and Mrs. Brown apparently all had their own ideas about jam, and none of them had followed the recipes. What was the result? Well, Mrs. Jones' gift had fermented and the contents had leaked all over the case; Mrs. Smith's jam had some apple in it and had moulded. Mrs. Brown also ignored the instructions and added rhubarb to her strawberries, with the result that her product had a poor flavour, and was too thin for shipment overseas. The generous effort of three people was wasted, as well as valuable fruit and sugar. So many of these cases occurred in the first two years that Red Cross and the Women's Institutes issued the regulation that jam for Britain could only be made by three or four or more women working together in groups, either in a neighbour's kitchen or in a church or school where there is a cook stove. Working in this way women are more inclined to follow the tested recipes which are supplied to them. As a result of this regulation the jam has greatly improved during the last two seasons.

It is interesting to know that British people like a sweeter, thicker jam than do Canadians. This is an advantage because only a thick, sweet jam will travel safely overseas. All recipes call for at least a pound of sugar to a pound of fruit, and some of them need much more. Because the need in Britain is so great, the Canadian Government has allowed the Red Cross special permits for sugar. Any Institute branch wishing to make jam for Britain may obtain permits from Red Cross, which will enable them to purchase the necessary sugar. We should point out that this *does not mean* sugar for jam which is sent by relatives or friends to a soldier overseas. Sugar can only be purchased for Red Cross jam which is made by groups and shipped to Britain for bombed-out victims, war nurseries and military hospitals.

If each Institute branch in Quebec contributed only one case (12 tins) of jam, that would amount to more than 2 tons! Think of it! A truly magnificent contribution. Most rural women are very busy now, but a group of six women working together could easily make 12 four-pound tins of jam in two afternoons during the summer. Just two afternoons in the whole season for 2 tons of jam.

Quebec has many blueberries, but no satisfactory recipes have been available that produce a jam which won't mould or ferment in the four-pound tins, which are not hermetically sealed. This is the reason many of you were told last year that you could not send blueberry jam to Britain. Red Cross did not wish you to spend your effort and materials and then have to throw the jam away because of spoilage. However, this last winter experts have been working on this problem, and it now seems likely that a suitable recipe will be developed. It is suggested that this recipe be followed exactly if you wish your gift to reach its destination overseas. All directions and suggestions which are sent out by the Provincial Red Cross have one object in view—that is, to make sure that as much of the jam as is possible will reach Britain unspoiled. Some of the best jam received by Red Cross for shipment overseas has been made by small groups of women who have been anxious that the jam would be an example of their skill in the home arts. It is with pride that such gifts have been forwarded to our neighbours across the seas.

A number of women live in areas where there is little or no fruit, and they have wished to have some share in this work. Some of them have sent small contributions in to the head of their own organization and this has been used to buy sugar for other districts where fruit is abundant, but where the group could not afford to buy sugar. Sometimes the money has been used to buy honey which is very welcome in Britain, or commercial jam has been purchased from a factory. Not all commercial jam is the right thickness and sweetness and samples are usually tested by the National Jam Committee before purchases are made.

The writer will be glad to answer enquiries if anyone desires further information. In the next issue recipes and directions will be printed, and every organization will have the opportunity of making jam for Britain.

Approved recipe for jam-making, directions for securing sugar, etc. will be available to the Women's Institutes from Miss Barbara G. Fletcher, Macdonald College.

Health Unit Facts

by G. A. LeBaron

The Health Unit, the public health service which efficiently serves 85% of the population of Quebec Province, has its headquarters in a conveniently situated Central Office. Its personnel consists of the medical officer, the nurse, and the sanitary engineer; their duties are as follows:

THE MEDICAL OFFICER — who in addition to his medical training, has also received specific training in Public Health work. He has full charge of the Health Unit, is responsible for all health measures, and for the prevention and detection of contagious diseases — which he refers to the local doctor for treatment.

THE NURSE — whose duties are:—

- 1) To visit homes, explain the doctor's orders, and teach the correct following of his orders.
- 2) To conduct examinations of school children, note defects, and to advise the parents on the correction of such defects.
- 3) To give advice to pregnant women, refer them to their own family doctor, — later to teach them proper care of their baby.
- 4) To examine children who have been ill, before they return to school, note any defects following the illness, and if necessary, suggest a visit to the family doctor for treatment, thus avoiding possible further loss of school time at a later date.
- 5) To teach precautions and nursing care in cases of contagious diseases; thus protecting the other members of the family and the surrounding community.
- 6) To follow up cases of tuberculosis, treated by the travelling clinic; to encourage the patient to continue the treatment and report back to the clinic, as advised.

THE SANITARY ENGINEER — who is in charge of all sanitation. His work consists of:—

- 1) Examination of wells and water systems for possible causes of typhoid fever, dysentery, nephritis etc.
- 2) Inspection of public buildings; schools, churches, restaurants, markets, hair-dressing and beauty parlours, bakeries, butcher shops, factories, and barber shops.
- 3) Inspection of sewage systems.
- 4) Inspection of dairies. (N.B. Quite a large percentage of the population now has the opportunity to procure pasteurized milk; this has helped reduce typhoid fever death rate.).
- 5) The investigation of nuisances as they are reported.

The personnel of the Health Unit gives lectures, public or special, and distributes health literature as the occasion arises. Personal interviews may be arranged, or inquiries made by letter at any time.

Any member of the Health Unit personnel who does not fulfil his duty toward maintaining the objects of the Health Unit cannot retain his position but must be replaced by a suitable person.

The children's clinic teaches good health habits and

modern hygienic living. Unfortunately, many defects are found among school children — averaging one defect per child. About 10% are underweight. With the Health Unit facilities, such children reached normal weight in one year's time.

Many cases are referred each year to the family physician, the oculist, and the dentist; tonsils and adenoids removed; cervical glands treated and cured; vision improved by proper glasses; goitre treated or cured.

The detection and control of infectious diseases is becoming increasingly effective with the establishment of the Health Units. Tuberculosis is being detected accurately and early. The local doctor may also benefit, by making use of the specialist who belongs with the travelling tuberculosis clinic. He will examine any patient referred to him, take free X-Rays if necessary, and report his findings to the doctor, who may then carry on the treatment.

The Health Unit strives for increased control and final eradication of all communicable disease; plague, cholera, and smallpox, once so prevalent, have disappeared; diphtheria and typhoid fever have decreased.

The laboratory service for the detection of tuberculosis, typhoid fever, undulant fever, diphtheria, venereal diseases, and for the testing of water, milk, and beverages is of untold value.

The distribution of free serums and vaccines for smallpox, diphtheria, scarlet fever, lockjaw, hydrophobia, typhoid fever, and meningitis, is also a great factor in the ultimate success of this great project.

The cost of operating the Health Unit is covered by taxation and that the cost has been well returned by the benefits of the Health Unit service is the opinion of those counties in which the health of the people is thus safeguarded.

CAN YOU MEASURE THE COST OF MAINTAINING A HEALTH UNIT AGAINST WHAT IT IS COSTING YOU AND YOUR COMMUNITY TO BE WITHOUT ONE? IS YOUR HEALTH UNIT RECEIVING THE WHOLEHEARTED COOPERATION OF YOUR COMMUNITY?

BABEL . . . (Cont'd from page 2)

It is clear that without organization the rural population can never exert the wholesome, moderating and stabilizing influence, which should be its main role in our society. We have not in these columns continued to urge the organization of farmers simply to form another "pressure group", —we have urged it for the purpose of continued study and discussion of his interests as a farmer and of his duties as a citizen, in order that he may be in a position to more effectively fill his proper place and wield his due influence in national affairs.

Adult Education

by Agnes L. Patterson

Education does not commence at a certain period of our lives, and as abruptly end at another period. It is an experience which starts at the cradle and continues on up the years.

The Radio

Our search, if we will, need not take us farther than our own homes. What a vast world can be opened to us with a turn of the radio dial. The Government through the CBC as one medium has recognized the vital necessity of educating the masses for happier living and better citizenship. The result of this has been the organization of Citizen's Forum and the formation of either Listening and Discussion Groups, or Community Groups. Radio talks dealing with subjects pertaining to industrial problems, farm problems, citizenship, current events, economics, post-war reconstruction, child guidance, music, art, etc. have been introduced. In such a variety of subjects even the hardest to please should be able to find something to suit his individual tastes and interests.

Books

Another means of education which does not take us far afield is to be found in the reading of books, it is possible for radio listeners to secure books on most of the subjects of the educational broadcasts. We can all learn a great deal by reading. Both old and young can read or have some one read to them. This helps to develop the mind. In choosing literature we should make choice of the books which will help us in whatever special training we may find necessary.

Educational Films

Educational films have been for some time available to the schools and Universities which have the necessary equipment, through the Department of Education. Now, along with war information films they are being made available to industrial plants, as well as young people's groups, women's organizations, students groups, churches, and can be obtained in most Provinces through educational Film Libraries situated in the cities.

Education and the War

"It's an ill wind that blows nobody good" is an adage of long standing. Out of the tragedy of this war as out of the tragedies of other wars, will come some good. In relation to our war effort thousands of men and women have been trained in many different departments of war industry, as well as for the Armed Forces. In the Army men have been taught a trade, one that will be useful to them when the struggle is at an end. They have learned to be carpenters, cooks, draftsmen, electricians, bricklayers and blacksmiths. The Air Force has trained many men to be efficient in science and mathematics and have raised their educational standard to that which is required for air-crew training.

Others have been trained for radio and wireless operators, also as engine and air plane mechanics.

The Navy has trained men to be engine room and electric artificers, motor fitters, radio mechanics and anti-submarine artificers. Women have also been trained in the different sections of the Services.

Will these people, either civilians or in the Services, be willing to go back to the positions which they left before the war? With their improved skills it is only natural that they will require much higher positions. Then, too, there will be many returned men unfit to take up their former positions. They will have to be re-trained to enable them to make a satisfactory living.

Youth Training Programme

The demand for competent doctors, dentists and men of scientific learning and skill for the Armed Forces has been a constant drain in the supply of these for civilian needs and war purposes. In order to maintain the supply the Federal Government has made loans and grants to deserving students who would otherwise be unable to complete their courses. This has not only been of great assistance to the war effort, but has also helped many individual students. Having seen some results from the War-Time programme in this respect it is to be hoped that it will be continued on a peace time basis.

Work of 60 Years Lost by Grass Fire

In the spring it is a good old farm custom to institute a general clean-up around the buildings, and as often as not, advantage is taken in many localities to burn the dry grass around the houses and along the fences and roads. When this is done great care is necessary. A small grass fire under control may be a useful servant, but unfortunately as has happened in the past, it may become a demon of destruction. A small grass fire fanned by an unexpected wind may become a roaring furnace beyond control, bringing disaster in its trail.

"Only last spring" says Omer Allard, Supervisor of Illustrations, Dominion Experimental Station, Lennoxville, P.Q., "not far from Lennoxville, a farmer who had lighted a small grass fire left it to go to dinner. Shortly afterwards a passer-by rapped at the door and told the farmer his verandah was on fire. The family rushed out, but it was too late. The farmer lost his house, his barn, his shed, his implements, and all his personal effects. He was heard to say 'There, that is all that is left after 60 years of work and one moment of carelessness'".

If it is necessary to burn grass, every precaution should be taken to avoid accidents. Before starting the fire, care should be taken that the surroundings of nearby buildings had been swept clean, and that there was no danger of the fire reaching the woodlot or the bush uncontrolled.

Q.W.I. Notes

Argenteuil County. Frontier Branch had a review of world wide, County and Branch events for the past year. Plans were made for school prize-giving, and \$10 donated to the Children's Memorial Hospital. Lachute saw Miss Janet McOuat prepare a luncheon, the recipes for which were given to the members and the repast afterwards served to the ladies. Morin Heights held a parade and exchange of aprons. Pioneer remembered invalids with fruit and soups. A paper on "Publicity for one of our Allies" was read and baking hints given by Mrs. Parker. Two minutes of silence memorialized a late member, Miss C. Hooper, who passed away in December.

Huntingdon County. Aubrey-Riverfield Branch had a talk on the care of linen. Dundee discussed Penicillin and social hygiene, and the circular letter from Mrs. Smallman. A message from Mr. Leslie Hodgins on the duties of Liaison Officers was read. Franklin Centre had a paper by Mrs. R. J. Blair on "Are We Alive"? and an address by Rev. T. F. Duncan on our attitude towards post-war Problems. Howick sent \$5 to the V. O. N. in Montreal. "A Mother's Influence in the Home" was the title of a paper given by Mrs. W. Bryson. A story was read by Miss Margaret Morrison, entitled "When Father and Mother Rebelled." Cookie recipes were given by Mrs. J. D. Lang, Ormstown Branch gave a donation of \$50 to the Huntingdon County Hospital, made 6 large and 36 draw sheets for Barrie Memorial Hospital. Welfare and Health and home economics hints were given. The guest speaker was Dr. Stalker who gave a summary of the work of Barrie Memorial Hospital, in which 2,000 patients had been cared for in the four years of its operation. His topic was the School Health Programme, which covered examination and tests given the pupils, and stressed the need of more dental care. A paper of the origin of St. Valentine's Day was read by Mrs. Carmichael.

Compton County. Brookbury Branch gave gifts to a new W. I. baby. South Newport heard a paper on nutrition with true or false tests. The sick were remembered with cards. Sawyerville had an interesting talk by Miss Fletcher on making over clothes. Ten dollars were given in school prizes. East Clifton had papers on timely subjects. Donations were made to the cemetery fund, minister's salary; Prizes for School Fair and county Fair were given. This Branch has only seven members. Scotstown Branch assisted the Community Stretcher fund by holding an afternoon tea with variations of the fish pond idea. Forty chairs were purchased for W. I. use. Donations were made to the Cemetery Fund, School Fair, Sherbrooke Hospital and Wales Home. The Branch co-operated with School Board in the purchase of playground equipment. East Angus donated prizes for health in the school, and heard an interesting talk by Miss Fletcher on Home decoration. Three children were X-rayed and given dental care, and hot school lunches served. Bury Branch had papers on various sub-

jects of present interest. Community moving pictures were held, and hot school lunches supplied. Cookshire had papers on Music Appreciation, and the Beginnings of Religion. Milk and hot school lunches were supplied and substantial help given to needy neighbours. The sum of \$54 was raised at a rummage sale and a tea.

Gatineau County. Aylmer East Branch had a paper on Uses of Milk. An account of Queen Elizabeth's talk to an English Institute was read. Wakefield Branch remembered a sick member in Hospital with flowers. A talk was given by Dr. Geggie. Wright Branch had as roll call "ways to make some one happy."

Pontiac County. Shawville Branch held a marathon "bridge" to raise funds for their work and had a resume of important events. Wyman started the circulation of a McGill Travelling Library. Elmside had a description of
(Continued on next page)

W.I. Appreciates Journal

by Mrs. Stanley McVetty, Cookshire

In the first place, the Journal is a source of personal pleasure to me, because I attended Macdonald College and it serves as a link between those days and the present. The back page usually carries news of the staff and alumni, with interesting illustrations and photos of well-remembered teachers.

In most of the issues there is First Aid Service for the care of all types of live-stock, which is an invaluable help to the average farmer, who could not readily afford veterinary service for every small ailment among his stock.

The Journal also keeps up on market reports each month, accurately quotes the changes of price which a farmer must take into consideration to avoid going behind, and gives the subsidies paid by the Government in butter, milk, cream, etc. to encourage farmers to maintain or increase production.

The Journal carries intelligent articles on pests and how to combat them, pruning of trees, treatment of seeds before planting, as well as on co-operative plans of marketing farm products. It also carries articles on what the government is doing to help to work out farm problems.

Cookshire was featured in an article on Potatoes, and it showed a picture of the root cellar and truck used by Mr. Omer Dionne and told how many acres of potatoes he planted and his yield.

Splendid advice is also given on repairs of farm machinery. In these trying times it is almost impossible to get new equipment. Repairs must be made and the Journal recognizes this need and does much to help us meet it.

Finally, of great interest to the members of the W.I. are the Q.W.I. notes devoted to the activities and interests of our organization throughout the province.

The Journal is doing a fine job and is of great interest to a large majority of our members.

the new sugar beet industry and a demonstration on new sewing-machine attachments. Bristol Busy Bees raised the sum of \$22. at a tea, and made arrangements for the Fall Fair. Seventy-eight sick calls were made by members. Debates on the city girl vs. the country girl, and the auto vs. the horse, were enjoyed.

Richmond County. Spooner Pond sent a quilt to a needy family and discussed School fair plans. A donation was sent to the County Library fund from Melbourne Ridge and fruit and cards to shut-ins. Melbourne Ridge planned for the School fair and sent cards to the sick. Richmond Branch planned a food and work sale and gave a contribution to Richmond Library. Cleveland Branch held a musical contest.

Rouville County. Abbotsford Branch had a reading entitled "Portrait of a Village" by Francis Brett Young. A social follow-up of the meeting netted \$10.55 for the treasury.

Sherbrooke County. Belvedere voted \$20. to the Self-Denial Fund, and planned more for the future. Mr. Farquhar, High School Principal, led a discussion on National and International Relations. Cherry River had a discussion on Canadianization and national events. Antiques were on display, and a miscellaneous sale took place, also a contest with prizes. Milby sent a basket to a sick member, and held a bread contest. Lennoxville filled in D coupon forms to be sent back at request of Consumer's News. The School Fair Prize list is under revision to be circulated later in the schools in the County. A social evening was held for members and their friends which was much enjoyed. Programme subjects included a review of Lloyd Douglas' book, "The Robe," by Mrs. Norman McLeod, and an address by Mrs. M. E. McCurdy on "The Value of the Press." Orford sent \$5. to the Y.W.C.A. fund and \$11. to the self-denial fund.

Stanstead County. Ayer's Cliff had a programme on Health, the Convener of that department giving an interesting talk on the subject. Hot lunches are being served to 49 out-of-town pupils attending the High School. Beebe has the honor of being the first Branch in Stanstead County to have a member on the local School Board,—Mrs. Ruth House, a teacher of wide experience and ability having recently been appointed to that position. A musical programme by local artists was much enjoyed. Hatley had a true and false contest on agriculture. Stanstead North has made arrangements to serve hot lunches to pupils from out of town attending Stanstead College. Cards of sympathy were sent bereaved relatives and a card shower to one who was ill. Way's Mills Branch is enjoying a McGill Travelling Library.

Vaudreuil County. Como, Hudson and Hudson Heights Branch sent gifts to people whose friends were absent for the holidays overseas, and those in sickness or need.

Topics in Brief

Signs of a happy home: muddy tracks on the kitchen linoleum, and sticky piano keys.

Here's a new one for Claire Wallace: from Loretteville to Beebe, from Fort Coulonge to L'Anse aux Cousins. These are the boundaries of the QWI, in an area of, roughly, 6,500 square miles.

Word has come from the Navy League that in 1943 the QWI filled 526 Ditty Bags. What's a ditty bag? — a dark blue cotton bag filled with comforts like toothpaste, soap, socks, pocket-size books, etc. To whom are they given? — to men of the Navy and Merchant Navy who otherwise might not receive any Christmas gifts at all.

Why the "ditty" in Ditty Bag? We are told that in the olden days, the wives and sweethearts of the British Navy filled sacks with comforts, and put in each one a little verse or "ditty". These must have been appreciated, because that's what the men remembered most. Why not keep up the tradition and try to put a little rhyme in each of our QWI Ditty Bags?

Make a point of listening, some morning at ten o'clock, to a station on the CBC network. You'll be amazed at what you can learn. On Mondays, it's Science; Tuesdays, Music; Wednesdays, Geography; Thursday, Stories for Children, and Fridays, Current Events.

From the "Club Woman's Creed": "May we put away pretence, and meet each other face to face without self-pity and without prejudice."

Mr. O. A. Beriau, of Quebec, recently put forth a plan which could go far in removing prejudice and building up understanding among the women of this province. He suggests occasional joint meetings of Cercles des Fermieres and QWI branches, with a common purpose such as an exhibit or demonstration.

Remember when tuberculosis was spoken of in hushed tones as "consumption"? And nobody knew just what it was, but people "went into a decline" and died. Remember when a person with cancer "wasn't mentioned", as if it was a disgrace? Let us see to it that knowledge about venereal diseases is publicized as widely, and that will be another "boogey man" unmasked.

Many rural communities in Ontario are taking stock of the opportunities which will be available there at the close of the war. They are listing: The number of vacant farms, for what the land is best suited, number of factories and businesses short-handed, etc. All this with a view to providing, for the people who return to that area, a promising fresh start.

J. A. B. McLeish, principal of Gault Institute, Valleyfield, in his book "Problems of School Youth in Wartime", attacks with deep understanding the subject 'children in trouble.'

From Our Readers

The question of maple syrup rationing is a very live one, as the following letters received during the past month will show.

Dear Sir:

Since my first letter to you was written, a few more thoughts have come to mind which I would like to set down on paper.

I do not make sugar but if I did I would not tap this Spring. Those thousands of farmers who have developed a retail trade for their product will not be able to sell any in cans this year. There are thousands here in the Townships who sold practically nothing in bulk and have spent money getting private customers. Last year they made a little money but this year they are shot as I see it. This and the honey regulations are just two more that are all right for the consumer, but hard on the farmer with investment and equipment.

The fixed price on hides has made it so that, with men short, thousands of hides have not been taken off at all. When I go to Dacks for a pair of shoes the price is not what it was three years ago. Last fall it was next to impossible to sell cow and bull beef. The local drover here told me he very nearly brought a load back from Montreal and the same day saw truckers head back for the country with loads of hogs. This all comes out of the farmer and adds to costs.

The one bright spot is the subsidy on milk to condenseries, as that is just on the 100 lb. basis and a farmer can pick up an extra dollar by adding water. One plant that used to have an average test of 4% and better is now down to just about 2% and still taking in the usual amount of fat.

There are a few local conditions that may be of interest to you. For instance the two cent reduction on the price of milk. In Knowlton, for example, there is now only one milk man to look after 1000 people. The small fellows all stopped rather than be bothered going to the bank for the subsidy and the

trouble of making out the reports. Foster is the same way and this applies to all the little towns where the dependable supply came from the retired farmers with a few cows in or around the villages. In my case it was a Godsend, as it gave me a good excuse for stopping the half dozen who came each day or each second day for their supply. That two cent reduction and subsidy has done nobody any good except the people in bigger cities earning wages and well able to pay. It is not a question of who is going to win the Peace, but who is going to please the people enough to win the next election.

City men with farms are getting pretty sick of it. Anyone who depends on labour and keeps books has to quit. It has reached the point where farmers do not bother trying to hold men, as the "powers-that-be" will do nothing. One of my men asked for an increase of \$25.00 a month in November, so had to be let go and so far I have not been able to find anyone young enough to be of any use.

You will note that I have not made many suggestions as to how these conditions can be corrected. If I knew, then I would be putting some into practice right here as I am two men short and have not a single stick of wood cut for another year. The only answer is to pay what labour asks and to pay what it costs to get what one needs but that extra money has to come from some place and I do not see it coming. One chap said to me "Farmers should strike". Of course the answer to that is that farmers or no one else with an investment strikes. It is just those with no dollars invested in business that can afford to strike.

Yours faithfully,

W. Elmo Ashton.

Franklin Centre, P.Q.

Dear Mr. Editor:

Our Farm Forum group has been discussing the question of maple syrup rationing with other producers who are not members of the Forum, and from the general view of the producer there

is more in the offing that is presented to view at the present time. Is it that the W.P.T.B. are trying to give more to the middleman who buys, bottles and sells and who last year was unable to buy in any large quantity due to his low price? It is felt that the ration system must be adjusted to meet the local trade. The average rural family buys a year's supply of eight or ten gallons of syrup which is no great amount for five or six people of the average family, and we feel that it is out of the question to make these people submit coupons. In general it is making one more black market along with the rest we now have functioning.

At the time of writing the W.P.T.B. is still maintaining that rationing is in effect after all the disapproval the producers have brought forth. If such is the case, it is pretty near time that our *very efficient Board* gave us some regulations as to how our large buyers in the West are going to be able to secure their desired orders as they are writing and asking what they have to do.

Yours sincerely,

Floyd Stevenson.

Hemmingford, Que.

Dear Sir:

In this district we have producers of maple syrup who in the past shipped as far west as Vancouver and one man sent his entire output to a storekeeper in northern Saskatchewan. Hardly a producer but sends part of his output to the western provinces, and we all feel that the less the Government interferes with the maple sugar and syrup crop the larger the said crop will be, weather being right.

This rationing in such small quantities puts producers at the mercy of wholesalers and past experiences do not lead us to expect much from them. Then take the question of wages. Last year wages paid for help ranged from fifty to seventy-five dollars a month with board: one man was asked one hundred. He could get no other help and rather than pay that price he let his bush go

idle. In a good many cases the help wanted two to four gallons of syrup as well. Can one wonder that some are considering the possibility of realizing on their bush when wood is so dear? In some quarters, mostly from people who never experienced the amount of hard work and in the past years often small returns, this is considered a short sighted policy. What can you expect when the powers that be inaugurate short sighted policies?

A large percentage of the people of Canada do not know what maple syrup is and wouldn't know it when they saw it. Yet it is to be taken away from those who know and appreciate it to give it to those others who don't want it anyway. Maple syrup and sugar are luxuries which all cannot expect to have, and a good many people don't want to use their "D" coupons for it.

Some farmers, owing to the scarcity of dry fuel wood, are talking of selling the wood they had put away to sugar with while they can get a good price for it and let the slavish hard work of the sugaring season alone, and they may already have sold their wood. A drive through the township of Hemmingford, as the writer took lately, will easily show anyone with eyes that the piles of hard maple cordwood are not conducive to a large crop of sugar this spring.

Yours sincerely,

Robert W. Hawkins.

Way's Mills, P.Q.

Dear Mr. Editor:

There are a few thoughts about maple syrup rationing which I would like to pass on to you. First, farmers should be allowed to retail maple products on coupon at retail ceiling prices. We have been doing so since long before the basic period.

Then there should be another coupon allotted for maple purchases in the spring as was done with sugar for rhubarb. If possible the ration should be increased in the event of a good crop. If the "D" coupons are used there should be no expiry date on them. In regard to this point, there are too many

articles on the "D" coupons. Storekeepers report that they are being used as fast as they come due. They also oppose the idea of saving them since they are stocked up with the other items.

It has also been announced that coupons saved from January to March enable the purchase of two gallons of syrup. There are only seven coupons in the book between these dates while eight are required.

Survey Reveals Opinions on Meat

Many interesting facts on the consumption of meat in city households are given in the report of investigations by Charlotte I. Johnston and Dr. W. C. Hopper, Economics Division, Dominion Department of Agriculture. The study was undertaken in three cities of Canada, namely, Saint John, N.B., Montreal, Que., and Vancouver, B.C., in which 2,050 households were visited and answers obtained to questions on the purchase and use of beef, pork, lamb, veal, bacon, ham, poultry, liver, sausages and canned meats. It was found that the cost of meat amounted to 26 per cent of the total monthly food bill in Saint John, 37 per cent in Montreal, and 18 per cent in Vancouver.

On the average, meat was used twice per day in 37 to 47 per cent of the families of the three cities. Meat was used three times per day by about 7 per cent of the families in Saint John, one per cent in Montreal, and 3 per cent in Vancouver. About 22 per cent of the housewives interviewed in Saint John were of the opinion that meat could be used 3 times per day without injury. In Montreal only two per cent were of that opinion.

Only one adult in the families interviewed in Saint John, only one in Montreal, and only four in Vancouver disliked meat. About 18 per cent of the housewives in Saint John stated they thought that pork was injurious to health, and 39 were of the opinion in Montreal. About 17 per cent of the households in Saint John thought that

The general opposition to the whole plan seems to be based (with considerable foundation) in the belief that rationing of maple products was put into force not as a war measure but under pressure from the commercial handlers to put the marketing in their hands not only for the duration but for all time.

Yours very truly,

Gordon W. Geddes.

veal was harmful, but only 3 per cent were of that opinion in Montreal. About 92 per cent of the housewives in Vancouver thought meat was as beneficial as other foods.

Hog Carcass Weight

The average carcass weight for all hogs is about 75 per cent of the live weight, but it may range from below 70 to over 80 per cent in individual cases. Accurate carcass weight is given by the automatic self-registering scale in the abattoir, which is regularly checked by the official grader.

"Ever since the beginning of the war Britain has been emphasizing the importance of cheese as a suitable food for shipment to Britain in times of war. Our experience has demonstrated that the policy of supplying cheese instead of butter, while it meets the needs of Britain, is also in the best interests of the Dairy Industry. Canadian production both during and following the war should be regulated by Canadian consumption. All surplus milk possible over and above Canadian requirements for whole milk and butter should be turned into cheese."—J. G. Gardiner.

"Do I understand that Dan and Beer-sheba are the names of places?

"Yes."

"That is one on me. I always thought they were husband and wife, like Sodom and Gomorrah."

Pithy Pickings

by F. S. Thatcher

"Agriculture has been relegated to the lowest rung of the economic ladder."

—Mitchell Hepburn.

* * *

On a ten-year average the production of butter has required about one hour of labour per pound. The minimum Quebec wage-rate for unskilled labour is 35 cents per hour.

* * *

According to figures from the 1941 Dominion census the average value of the Canadian farm house was \$1057: the average value of privately-owned homes in the principal cities of the Dominion was more than \$4500.

* * *

The value of farm land in Canada was lower in 1941 than in 1901.

* * *

A well-known economist recently expressed the view that conditions at present appear favourable for a serious post-war slump. A suggested antidote was parity prices for the farmer.

* * *

"... From now on agriculture need not and must not be asked to be content with a menial portion of the national income." —

—Mr. H. H. Hannam, President, Canadian Federation of Agriculture.

* * *

One hundred percent organisation of Ontario agriculture on a commodity group basis is the aim of the Ontario Federation of Agriculture.

* * *

U.S. experts are fearful that an expected egg surplus in the spring will cause a sharp price decrease and a possible egg shortage next year. (There is no U.S. egg "floor").

* * *

An expected wider use of glass "cans" for commercial packing is probable because glass manufacturers expect new automatic filling and sealing methods to overcome the can's present advantage. The ability of the consumer to "see what he buys" will demand more exacting production and handling standards.

Farmers may be well-advised to try to lay in supplies of second-hand baskets, crates and boxes because of a probable shortage of new containers next season.

* * *

Dairymen are warned that post-war receding markets will require more rigid production standards.

* * *

"British agriculture is only 5% of British industry, but it is still the biggest *single* industry, and the value of farm crops grown is seven times as great as any of the Dominions"

Lord de la Warr, Chairman of the British Agricultural Research Council
Think what Canada could produce through organized agriculture!

* * *

"The more food, the less war" is the title of an editorial and suggested slogan appearing in the Agricultural Gazette of New South Wales.

* * *

Long range planning — A government-appointed committee of sheep farmers in Great Britain recommended an ordered programme of sheep improvement with the State contributing not less than 60% of the cost for a minimum of 15 years.

* * *

An Agricultural Commission of Enquiry for Ontario received these views from farmers' organizations:

1. Adequate floor prices should be established on all essential agricultural products.
2. Government assistance should be given in improvement of pastures and of live stock quality.
3. Research in farmers' problems should be extended.
4. A farm-labour board should be established.
5. A series of demonstration farms of different types should be maintained by the government.

* * *

Order certified seed potatoes now. A limited stock only is available. Remember that new regulations require that seed intended for production of a certified crop must be of "foundation" or "Foundation A" stock.



STEELE, BRIGGS SEED CO.
LIMITED

TORONTO • WINNIPEG
REGINA • EDMONTON

13

SOLD BY LEADING MERCHANTS



Weekly production of creamery butter was down 20.1 per cent for the week ended February 12, compared with the corresponding week of last year, according to a report from the office of the Nova Scotia Dairy Superintendent. The total for the week was 57,802 pounds.

The decreased production in Nova Scotia is consistent with the general situation in Canada. Production for all Canada during November, December and January, was reported down approximately 5,400,000 pounds when compared with production of the corresponding months of the year previous.

PERRON'S SEEDS

prize winners

Seed Catalogue or Supplement or Both



FREE

In order to save paper and help win the war, we are not issuing a new catalogue for 1944; but we have prepared a supplement showing price changes and sold out articles. If you already have our 1943-44 catalogue, but have not received our supplement, write for it. If you have neither catalogue nor supplement, ask for both. They are sent free.

W.H. PERRON & CO. LIMITED
SEEDSMEN & NURSERYMEN
935 ST. LAWRENCE BLVD. MONTREAL

STRIPPINGS

by Gordon W. Geddes

Farmers thought the prices on hogs at the Sherbrooke Fat Stock Show were pretty high but they are dwarfed by the value of the pound that takes a hog from the B-2 class into the B-1. That pound is worth about \$2.66½. There is the 50c cut on the B-2 plus \$2 government bonus on B-1 plus 16½c for the extra pound of pork. We found this out the hard way by sending in one a pound too light. It brought a total of \$21.23 so the cut was about an eighth of the value of the hog. Of course, we shouldn't have sent it so soon but it weighed 190 and should have been all right. One can't ship every week in the winter from here and it would have been too heavy before the rest were ready. Anyway it proves that 190 is not always safe due to the variation in percentage of dressed weight.

Even in that one shipment of hogs the percentage varied from 70 to 80%. The biggest one made 168 on the rail and the A grade. It brought \$31.50 clear of shipping charges with the bonus of over \$10 for the 34 lbs. above the small one. The average was about \$26.60 with a net price per lb. of 18½c with bonuses. Four were in the A grade so one could get a pretty good

price if all made that rating. However, the man who puts them all in the A class earns the bonus for not only must the weight be right but the finish too. It is easy to get the B-1 if the weight is good. Incidentally, the big one was the one that was fed by itself on account of the rupture. So it did make a lot of bacon for Britain and I got well paid for the trouble even if I did make about thirty extra steps per pound of gain to feed it alone.

Katrinka brought us another litter the morning that we shipped these so we were still in the hog business. Considering that they were quite unexpected for another 17 days she did very well by saving us nine. We had the supposed service date but she had her own opinion on the matter. It was just as well since the weather was rotten at the expected hour. At least, I didn't lose any sleep sitting up with her as I did last winter only to be asleep at the crucial moment.

The government advertisements intended to stimulate hog production are rather puzzling to the average farmer. The first series shows feed grain used by hogs to be worth about \$1.75 per cwt. with hogs bringing \$16.50 at the farm which is what we get aside from premiums. With grain costing us \$1.85 this wasn't very encouraging. A later series shows that under these conditions a B-1 hog earning the premium of \$2 will return \$1.98 for the grain per cwt. This is based on a feed consumption of 1000 lbs. per hog. A net profit of 13c. per cwt. on 1000 lbs. of grain would mean a total of \$1.30 profit per hog. According to the advertisement the \$3 bonus for A grade will add 10c. per cwt. to the value of grain. Not being accustomed to higher mathematics and

political figure juggling, a farmer would think that \$3 extra would mean 30c. per cwt. on the thousand lbs. of grain. In addition there is the \$1 bonus from the packers. At least we can't accuse the government of painting too rosy a picture of the profits in hogs.

But they are attempting to do that when they talk of establishing a new system of payment for hogs to eliminate the 'cuts' or discounts on lower grades. No matter what they call it, the result is the same. Poor hogs will bring a poorer price whether it is done by bonusing the good ones or cutting the poor ones.

Having let out a few squeals it's about time to drop the hog business and think of something else. But not the weather or I'll be squealing again. I certainly got the wood cut just in time for it would be no fun in the woods now. Feb. 16 brought a big storm last year too.

By the time this appears, we should be making maple syrup, providing the government can pacify the commercial handlers without completely discouraging production. Sometimes the easiest way of being a pacifist is to pass-a-fist to the other fellow's chin before he knows that you don't want a fight. But one should be sure of having the punch to do the job or the thing might turn out like Japan's Pearl Harbour blow at the United States. From the producer's point of view a government announcement that they could sell maple products retail, at the retail ceiling price, should fully 'pacify' the commercial firms in their attempt to corner the marketing end. Abolishing rationing would be more effective but the former move would end much of the farm opposition to rationing.

LEYBURN FARM YORKSHIRES

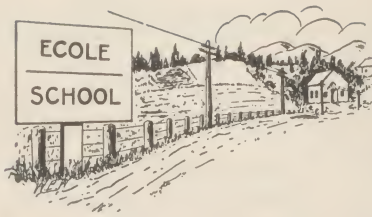
Offering Young Pigs of Both Sexes
From XXX Stock

HERD SIRE — PARDALE ROYAL LAD

C. J. BRYSON

(REG.) C.B.R.

ORMSTOWN, QUE.



LIVING AND LEARNING



La Reveille Rurale

The farm broadcast on the French network at noon on week days has an opening theme that is like no other opening theme. It is a combination of roosters crowing, church bells and alarm clocks. As it approaches its not too musical crescendo, one senses a noise of stirring — possibly it's a toil-sore rather grumpy farmer admitting bitterly to himself that it is dawn, and another day. The opening theme intends to convey the impression the rural country side has reached a time of awakening from its sleep to the work of the world.

We have searched for a cause — a reason for this. Perhaps it was the new credit union film. — "Peoples Bank" that has been doing the circuits. Perhaps it was the broadcast series on the Rural Community that turned the peoples eyes inward, to the problems of their community. Whatever did it, it was done, and done well.

The double impact of this modern medium of communication — the film and radio, in February gave us one glimpse of the immense possibilities of an adult education movement which uses freely and intelligently all the instruments of modern communication as part of a carefully planned and integrated pattern of education, with community and political action.

We have no doubt that the possibilities of such education have been only glimpsed.

We heard only to-day that one of the companies that makes modern picture projectors has a plan to make projectors half as heavy, and half as expensive as the present model.

We can imagine in the future the teaching of technical courses by special university television stations to well-equipped agricultural vocational high schools. We won't begin listing the possibilities.

Yet all these things are gadgets unless there is the will to learn. Learn for what? There must be a drive behind learning, greater than the drive for self-improvement. Scotland developed elementary education at an early date because of the desire to teach the common man to read the Bible. Some such urge must be in us, or we, and our educational system, will stagnate.

In our Farm Forums, Film Circuits and Community Schools we are beginning to realize something of these possibilities. Suddenly the years' discussion has begun to crystalize into little action groups beginning to organ-

ize community recreation centres, credit unions and co-operatives.

Herdman, Kingsbury and Melboro Forums are all studying credit unions. Three other forums are looking into the matter of a co-operative creamery and Ways Mills adds to this the study of a feed purchasing association. The Farm Forums in Pontiac County have been studying mutual fire insurance ever since the New Year, and are very keen to get something done about it soon.

Several Forums are working on a community hall and recreation centre for their young folk. Recognizing the fact that building a community hall is not something that one Forum can do by itself they are trying to enlist the services and support of all community organizations — the local municipal council, the school board, the Boy Scout and Girl Guide groups, the Home and School Club, the Women's Institute, the Churches and others. This seems to mean a complete re-awakening of the old community consciousness which augurs well for the success of any project.

The Films at Work

"The People's Bank" a film on credit unions has been the outstanding recent feature on the circuits recently. At Grenville a study group on cooperation was a direct result. Meetings are held weekly, and action is being planned in the near future.

Many communities are now combining other program events with the films. At Herdman in February, Nolasque April, agronome, spoke on Credit Unions. Knowlton had a discussion conducted by L. N. McClintock and Mr. Hastings. At Shawville, Neil Drummond, agronome, was the guest speaker. At Bristol, a collection was taken for the Red Cross. Stanstead combined their film showing with their Citizens' Forum. At Bell Falls there was a Farm Forum discussion. East Hatley had serious weather problems and the showing at Way's Mills had to be cancelled on account of this.

Many comments have come in about the films. Often a request comes to repeat a film. Many ask for comedy. Documentary films are of an educational nature, and therefore do not limit themselves to Hollywood's commercial variety. However, the use of animated cartoons lightens the touch. Many reports say: "We missed the sing song."

(Continued on page 32)

Courses in Handicrafts at Macdonald College

Trained instructors are essential to a successful handicraft program in schools, churches, Boy Scout groups and similar educational, religious and recreational organizations.

The Macdonald College Handicrafts Division is offering a series of courses in various crafts. All instruction is individual and attendance at the courses may begin at any time upon making arrangements for living accommodations. The cost of room and board at Macdonald College is \$8.00 per week. All articles made become the property of the student. Every opportunity will be given for those attending to select materials and make their own designs for objects listed in each course. A certificate will be awarded upon satisfactory completion of a craft course.

At Macdonald College boys and girls, men and women, children and parents, French and English Canadians all find a common interest in handicraft work. People in all parts of Canada can find similar pleasures in a wide range of practical creative handicrafts.

Courses in the following crafts will be offered at Macdonald College this summer:

WEAVING—

| | |
|----------------|----------------------------------|
| Card Loom | 2 Cotton belts |
| Honeycomb Loom | Wool and cotton table mat |
| Cradle Loom | Wool Scarf |
| Inkle Loom | Rayon belt, wool and cotton sash |
| 2-Heddle Loom | Scarf and pair of towels |
| 4-Heddle Loom | Rayon belt, wool and cotton sash |

| | |
|-----------------------|-------------|
| Duration of Course | Three weeks |
| Tuition and materials | \$24.50 |
| Living Costs | 24.00 |

\$48.50

LEATHER—

| | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| Cowhide Leather belt | Stamping |
| Link and Braided belt | |
| Small purse and Morocco Billfold | Lacing |
| Book Cover and Underarm Bag | Tooling |
| Pairs of slippers | Sheep shirling, plain and peccary leathers |
| Pairs of gloves | Doeskin, suede and grain leathers |

| | |
|-----------------------|---------------|
| Duration of Course | Two weeks |
| Tuition and materials | \$21.00 |
| Living costs | 16.00 |
| | <hr/> \$37.00 |

WOOD TURNING—

| | |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Candy dish | Red cedar |
| Plates | Birch and walnut |
| Small bowl | Birch |
| 2 Salad bowls | Cypress, birch or mahogany |
| Pair of salt and peppers | White mahogany |
| Pair of egg cups | Walnut |
| Pair of candle holders | Birch |
| Table lamp | Walnut |
| Care of tools and equipment | |
| Finishing and polishing articles | |



Articles of this sort can be turned by men and women after a few weeks' training.



Samples of weaving done in the Handicrafts shop at Macdonald College.

| | |
|-----------------------------|-----------|
| Duration of Course | Two weeks |
| Tuition and materials | \$20.00 |
| Living costs | 16.00 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$36.00 |

LINOLEUM BLOCK PRINTING—

| | |
|--|----------|
| Designs and literature references | |
| Greeting cards in one color | |
| Book plates or greeting card in 2 colors | |
| Lino prints from photographs | |
| Duration of Course | One week |
| Tuition and materials | \$6.00 |
| Living costs | 8.00 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$14.00 |

RUG MAKING—

| | |
|---|-----------|
| Making own rug frame and hook | |
| Designing | |
| Wool rug plain and clipped | |
| Cotton yarn rug | |
| Cloth rug | |
| Rug weaving with scraps—cotton or woolens | |
| Rug braiding | |
| Duration of Course | Two weeks |
| Tuition and materials | \$10.00 |
| Living costs | 16.00 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$26.00 |

FIBRECRAFTS—

In this craft, local vegetation as shrubs, grasses, corn husks, etc. are the only source of supplies. Innumerable interesting articles can be made from them. Rural communities are especially rich in suitable materials that can be collected at no cost.

- Button making from shrub stems
- Pine needle basket weaving
- Corn husk dolls and toys
- Cereal stem toys and novelties

| | |
|--|-----------|
| Necklaces and costume jewelry from seeds | |
| Basketry from grasses, bark and twigs | |
| Birch bark baskets, picture frames, small canoes | |
| Duration of Course | Two weeks |
| Tuition and materials | \$10.00 |
| Living costs | 16.00 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$26.00 |

HANDICRAFT PAMPHLETS

In furthering the development of a national handicrafts program, the Macdonald College Handicrafts Division is publishing a series of pamphlets each devoted to a single craft project such as can be done on the table at home or a desk at school. A very minimum of equipment is needed, details of how to make it are given in each pamphlet.

HANDICRAFT STORES

A supply store has been established, in co-operation with the Canadian Handicrafts Guild, which operates this educational project on a non-profit making basis. This store carries a stock of tools, equipment and materials needed for making anything described in the handicraft pamphlets.

FILMS . . . (Cont'd from page 29)

The National Film Board has supplied sing song films which are being sent with the regular program. There are three of these, so they will be interchanged on the three circuits.

A special effort is being made to publicize the film showings. The local agronomes are being notified of the showings in their district. Fram Forum secretaries receive a description booklet with the date of the showing marked on it. This will give more people time to study the booklet describing the films and presenting background information and perhaps more discussions will be the result.



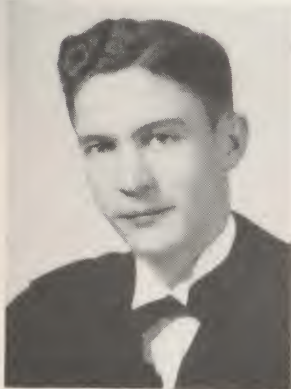
THE COLLEGE PAGE

Post Graduate Scholarship Winners

To Bertrand Forest and Lucien Auclair goes the honour of being the first students at Macdonald College to be awarded a Walter M. Stewart Scholarship.

Mr. Forest has a B.A. from Nicolet Seminary and received his B.Sc.(Agr.) from Ste. Anne de la Pocatiere in 1943. He is at present in attendance at Macdonald College taking courses leading to a Master of Science degree in horticulture. During his last three years at Ste. Anne de la Pocatiere he won a Provincial Government scholarship, awarded for high standing and general proficiency.

Mr. Auclair is studying for a Master's degree in entomology. He graduated with the B.S.A. degree from Oka in 1942, winning the A.C.F.A.S. prize in Botany and the Lieutenant Governor's medal for high standing through-



B. Forest



L. Auclair

out his course. He entered Macdonald College for the first time in the fall of 1942.

These scholarships, which have a value of \$500.00 each, were established at the beginning of the present session by Mr. Walter M. Stewart of Montreal, long a generous benefactor of Macdonald College. Their purpose is to enable two deserving students each year, one from Ste. Anne de la Pocatiere and one from Oka, to come to Macdonald College for postgraduate work. The final choice of candidates is made by the authorities of the

two colleges from applications received by them during the session.

Since most if not all these men who will benefit from these scholarships will eventually enter the Government service in Quebec, the eventual result of this far-sighted policy of Mr. Stewart's will be to make available for the technical and advisory staff of the Provincial Department of Agriculture men with advanced training in agriculture who will be able to make a worthwhile contribution to the welfare of our farmers and the Province as a whole.

Red Cross Blood Clinic Visits the College

The Mobile Blood Clinic of the Canadian Red Cross Corps made its second visit to Macdonald College on February 21st and met what can only be called a disappointing response to the oft-repeated appeal for blood which is so desperately needed by the fighting forces all over the world. Only sixty-six students and sixteen staff members donated blood on the clinic's second visit: twenty-one members of the C.W.A.C. and two volunteers from Ste. Anne's completed the total of 104 donors. In other words only about 26% of the students volunteered and the response from the "staff", under which term we include all those connected with the college other than students, was lower still — something less than 15%.

When the Clinic made its first visit on November 25th the response was only slightly better. On that occasion a total of 154 volunteers made contributions: ninety-three

students, thirteen staff members, forty-seven members of the C.W.A.C. and one other.

One reason advanced for the poor response was that no intensive campaign was carried out to advertise the impending arrival of the Clinic. This argument holds no weight. Posters announcing the date were displayed well in advance, and there is no valid reason why a high-pressure campaign should be necessary to induce healthy civilians to take half an hour or less of their time to donate a few hundred cubic centimeters of blood which will likely save some wounded man's life.

It is only fair to say that a few would be-donors were rejected by the examining doctors, but the number of these was not large. There is little ground for satisfaction in the facts given above.

Don'ts for Victory Gardeners

**Don't work your soil
when it's too wet.**



**Don't pack the soil
too hard over the
the seed.**



**Don't sow seeds too
early.**

**Don't let the weeds
crowd out the
vegetables.**



**Don't set out tender
plants too soon.**



**Don't let plants
suffer from lack of
water.**



**Don't sow seeds too
shallow.**

**Don't let insects
eat up your crops.**



**Don't sow seeds
too deep.**



**Don't let your crops
get over-ripe.**



**Don't plant in
rough soil.**

**Don't forget to can
and store —
remember the grass-
hopper and the ant.**

